

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 26th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

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Latest Arrivals.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Arrived in London This Day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	March 10		May 18
Nagasaki			" 19
Hakodadi			" 1
CHINA—			
Peking			" 2
Tien-tsin			" 18
Chefoo			" 21
New-chwang			" 15
Hankow			" 18
Kin-kiang			" 23
Chin-kiang	March 26	May 13	" 25
Shanghai			" 25
Ningpo			" 25
Yoo-chow			" 25
Formosa—Tamsuy			" 25
Amoy			" 30
Swatow			" 30
Hong Kong	April 19	" 29	" 30
Canton			" 30
Macao			" 30
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	March 27	" 13	" 23
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			" 23
SIAM—			
Bangkok			" 23
BORNEO—			
Labuan			" 23
Sarawak			" 23
AVA—			
Batavia			June 2
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	April 26	" 30	" 7
Penang	" "	" 28	" 9

The Persian Gulf Cable is injured, and the communication with Galle interrupted.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, per P. and O. steamer Poonah, arrived at Marseilles July 14.—From Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, Mr. Garvin. From Hong Kong: Mr. Newton, Capt. Gerrard, Mr. and Mrs. Wright, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Dabost and child, and one second-class passenger. From Singapore: Mr. Dircks.
To Southampton, per Nyanta, expected to arrive July 22.—From Shanghai: Mrs. Moller and infant and two second-class passengers. From Hong Kong: Col. and Mrs. Moody, two children, and European servant, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Forbes, Mr. G. Liddell, and three second-class passengers. From Singapore: Mrs. Smith, four children, and native servant, Mr. R. H. Hawes, Mr. Watson, and one second-class passenger. From Penang: Mrs. Mitchell.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, July 20.—To Hong Kong: Staff-Commander Thain, R.N., Mr. R. S. Syer, Mr. and Mrs. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. Manning, Dr. R. Bernard, R.N. To Shanghai: Mr. Scheidt. To Ceylon: Rev. G. Middleton, Mr. A. C. Hoare, Maj.-Gen. Hodgson, Lieut.-Col. Young, Capt. Napier, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Brown and infant. To Singapore: Mr. E. J. Smith. From Marseilles, July 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. S. Fyfe, Mr. J. Troncoso, Mr. I. A. Tuton. To Singapore: Mr. Hoffmann. To Shanghai: Mr. E. B. Drew, Mr. R. Geller. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Mr. M. Archer Shee, jun.
Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Aug. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Rennie. To Ceylon: Mr. G. Studdart. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Hulise. To Singapore: Mr. Leveson.
Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Aug. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. H. P. McClatchie, Mr. M. O'Brien. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Tomlin, Mrs. Emilus Hughes. To Ceylon: Mr. F. M. Evans, Mr. E. W. H. Holdsworth. From Marseilles, Aug. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Davidson. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. McLean.
Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Foster. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Fitzroy. From Marseilles, Sept. 15.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, Rev. J. S. and Mrs. Burdon. To Shanghai: Mr. E. J. Forrest, Mr. Herbert and friend. To Galle: Mr. W. Hudson. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Sir Rutherford and Lady Alcock and Miss Alcock.
Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. Henderson. To Ceylon: Mrs. Claugton.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates from this port are to the 18th May. The London mail of March 10th had arrived out.

The accounts now received confirm the intelligence that the Government had arrested and conveyed to Yedo a Yakinin named Samouvai, who had boasted that he had assassinated some Europeans at Yokohama. When under examination at Yedo, however, no such admission was elicited from him, but it is surmised that he may have been one of the murderers of Lieut. Camus, or of the two English officers lately assassinated.

It is generally known, although it has not been officially notified, that the Home Governments have left their respective representatives in Japan at liberty to settle the affair of the opening of new ports as they may think best. The representatives of England, France, America and Holland have therefore entered into special negotiations with the Japanese Government, and the immediate result has been the officially notified intention of the Japanese to postpone the opening of any new port until due time, and to pay a sum of \$3,000,000 as indemnity for the expenses of the Inland Sea expedition.

The following paragraph, taken from the *Japan Herald*, would seem to indicate that the turf mania, which has of late somewhat abated in Shanghai, is on the increase at Yokohama. We trust, however, that betting, or more properly speaking gambling transactions of this nature will not be carried to the same extent, or attended with such disastrous results, as they have been at the former place:—"This morning the long talked of match (for \$1,000) between Mr. M.'s Chinese pony Rat, and Mr. S.'s Japanese pony Batavia, came off at a very early hour. Course, round the New Road, from the first hill above the creek to the 20th's Barracks. A fair start was made, and the two went away freely, Rat taking an early lead, and at the crest of the first hill above Mississippi Bay, he was about half-a-dozen lengths a-head; here Batavia fell, giving an easy victory to Rat. Time thirteen minutes; distance estimated at four miles and three-quarters."

The following is the market report from this place:—

EXPORTS.—TEA.—During the past fortnight we have to report an active business, and prices have been maintained. Settlements about 2,200 piculs, leaving a stock of about 2,600 to 3,000 piculs. New teas are expected to arrive early in June. Quotations are: Good common, \$14.50 to 17.00; medium, \$19.00 to 22.00; good medium to fine, \$22.50 to 27.50; finest, \$32.00 to 38.00.

COTTON.—No business to report.

SILK.—An active business has been done during the past fortnight. Settlements about 1,200 bales, making a total for the season of 14,500 bales, against 14,800 same time last year. Prices have experienced little variation. Unsold stock about 650 piculs, and further arrivals are expected to come down freely from the country. Quotations are: Ida, medium, \$680 to 700; inferior, \$590 to 640; Mybush and Sinchu, best parcels offering, \$700 to 720; medium, \$680 to 690; inferior, \$650 to 670.

From Nagasaki we have dates to the 19th May, but no news of interest.

CHINA.

PEKING.

A letter from Tientsin contains the following further information regarding the most remarkable event that has lately occurred in China, the sudden disgrace of Prince Kung, and his equally sudden restoration only a week later.

The Chinese Censorship, instituted with the view of ensuring the safety of the Dynasty and the efficiency of the Government, consists of a body of forty censors, who have the power of calling for an inquiry into the conduct of any official whom they may suspect of improper conduct. So high indeed is the nature

of their office, that they are even permitted to reprove the Emperor when he does wrong. Several of these censors combined to accuse Prince Kung of embezzling money intended for the use of the army; of disrespectful conduct towards the young Emperor; and of sowing dissension between certain exalted personages. Peking was astonished to hear early in April that this notable Prince was deposed from his offices. The members of the Cabinet were told that, being now without their President, they must the more diligently transact their business. The Foreign-office was consigned to Wen Siang. Duties connected with the palace, formerly discharged by Prince Kung, were distributed among his one elder and three younger brothers. The Presidency of the Astronomical Tribunal and the Board of Physicians was declared vacant.

This startling news was conveyed to all the Provinces by the daily press—in the form of those little yellow-covered pamphlets which constitute the *Peking Gazette*. Curiosity and wonder were excited. The question was asked,—who were the unmentioned personages between whom dissension had been sown? What was the meaning of this dim allusion which the Emperor's decree said could not be further inquired into? The ready answer was, the two Empresses; the Empress-Dowager in the eastern palace, and the Empress-Mother in the western. Perhaps it is as well not to inquire too minutely into the nature of the differences that existed between these august ladies.

Days passed on, and the Court was found to be dull. The well-known figure of the young Prince did not appear at the daily morning assemblage of grandees and statesmen in the presence of the boy of eleven years old who is called Son of Heaven. The absence of his business habits and able management was palpably felt. What secret influence induced his brothers to speak for him we know not. Whether it was a self-prompted feeling, or whether it came from the offended, but now relenting ladies before alluded to, we cannot tell. Suffice it to say that they gave their names as guarantee for his good conduct, and it was at once decided to recall him to his position.

Prince Kung has been taught a lesson, has kept his riches, has been punished for his indiscretion, been disgraced before the empire, and suddenly reinstated in the possession of the reins of power. The yellow stitched pamphlets will tell the empire to its remotest parts that he is an avaricious and unscrupulous man, but one necessary to the Government, in which his position for the remaining six years of the Emperor's minority is probably more secure than it was before these events occurred.

SHANGHAI.

The dates are down to the 23rd of May, or five days later than per French mail for which we published on the 7th inst. The items of news are scant. We take from the *Friend of China* the following:—"Mr. and Madame Simonsen gave their fourth concert at the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday evening last to a large and fashionable audience, among whom we were delighted to see a number of ladies, for, after all, what is a concert or any other attempt at enjoyment without the presence of ladies? Madame Simonsen, in the grand cavatina from Lucia de Lammermoor and Meyerbeer's complaint from the Prophet, added greatly and deservedly to the high reputation she has obtained in Shanghai. She was several times encored during the evening, replying on each occasion with one of those home ditties we all so love to hear, and she so exquisitely renders. Her rich voice was in perfect tone, clear, pure, and full; while her execution was effective and faultless. Martin Simonsen's fantasia on 'La fille du Regiment' and the Carnival of Venice, were enthusiastically received. He was loudly encored, and gave some favourite airs with variations. His perfect mastery of the violin is unquestionable, and his talents as a musician, apart from mechanism, are evidently of a very high order."

The following account of the meeting of the new Council is from the same paper:—

Present:—W. Keswick, chairman; J. Hogg, T. Hanbury, J. C. Coutts, N. Latimer, W. Probst, R. F. Gould, secretary.

The members chosen to serve on the Municipal Council for the year 1865-6, assembled at the Council-room for the transaction of general business.

Messrs. Dent, Antrobus, and Heinsen, of the late Council, were also present.

The police force was inspected, and after a short speech from the Chairman of the retiring Council, was dismissed.

1. The minutes of the last meeting read, confirmed, and signed.

2. The members of Council for 1864-5 then retired. It was moved by

Mr. Councillor Hogg, and seconded by Mr. Councillor Coutts, and resolved unanimously:—

3. That Mr. Councillor Keswick be elected chairman of this Council for the year 1865-6.

4. The municipal engineer was then introduced to the Board, and informed that the public works committee would confer with him respecting the management of his department.

5. The secretary read a draft of proposed standing orders.

Resolved,—That the Standing Orders just read be adopted.

6. It was moved by the Chairman, seconded and

Resolved,—That the following members of Council be appointed to serve on the finance, rate, and appeal committees for the current year, viz., Councillors Hogg and Hanbury.

Resolved,—6. That the following Members of Council be appointed to serve on the public works committee for the current year, viz., Councillors Hanbury, Probst, and Nye.

8. That the following members of Council be appointed to serve on the match committee for the current year, viz., Councillors Coutts, Latimer and Hogg.

9. It was moved by Mr. Councillor Hogg, seconded, and

Resolved,—That a communication be addressed to H.B.M.'s Consul requesting him to submit the Budget to H.E. the Toutai, and obtain his assent to it, as far as it bears upon Chinese subjects, also that his Excellency be requested to increase the sum charged in commutation of native wharfage dues, to 15,000 taels, and the Council trust that H.B.M.'s Consul will urgently second this proposal.

10. It was moved by Mr. Councillor Latimer, seconded, and

Resolved,—That the finance, rate and appeal-committee be authorised to communicate with H.B.M.'s Consul, with reference to his obtaining powers for the enforcement of municipal taxation.

Resolved,—That the Council do now adjourn.

W. KESWICK, Chairman.

The following items are from the *Recorder*:—

Robbers and bands of disorderly "braves" are causing trouble in all directions. A force of some 8,000 Imperialist troops threw over their allegiance, looted the town of Kinkon, and declared their intention of marching upon Hankow, from which it seems they were only deterred by hearing of the presence of foreign gunboats. At Kiukiang similar disturbances have taken place. A large body of braves, who have revolted on account of the non-payment of their wages, have declared their determination to join the rebel ranks, and were within fifty miles of Kiukiang. Volunteer movements were inaugurated, and Mr. White, late of the S.V.C., was elected Captain, Mr. Paterson Lieutenant. The unsettled aspect of affairs has called public attention to the question of the withdrawal of the military forces, and a general feeling exists against such a measure.

The subject of the P. and O. steamers' moorings has again called forth public attention, and the notices which appeared in the papers are such as show, in a manner not to be mistaken, the general feeling of the public that they ought to have the advantage of being able to go on board the mail steamers from a wharf instead of having to go down to them in sampans.

At the first meeting of the new Municipal Council, they appointed separate committees to attend to the different departments. These consist of the finance, rate and appeal committee, the public works committee and the watch committee. This is a decidedly desirable innovation and it is to be hoped that it will conduce to a more successful administration of municipal matters than we have yet been able to record.

The election of Sir Harry Parkes (says the *Recorder*) as Commandant of the Shanghai Volunteers, will, we doubt not, meet with the unanimous approval of the community. It is essential that the gentleman occupying that post should be an influential and popular man; and above all that he should be one who will not spare himself trouble in the discharge of the duties which fall to him. All these qualifications are pre-eminently combined in Sir Harry Parkes. His personal influence and popularity do not make him more conspicuous than the well-known energy with which he has always devoted himself to the public service and to the furtherance of all objects likely to be beneficial to Shanghai. Amidst his onerous duties, judicial and diplomatic, while deciding lawsuits and writing despatches, Sir Harry has still found time to preside over meetings of the Asiatic Society; to take the chair at volunteer meetings; and in fact to interest himself in every movement of importance, which has taken place.

His co-operation as commandant of the Volunteer Corps will be in every way conducive to the success of the movement. What is wanted in public men in Shanghai is not more talent (though in that respect all who know Sir Harry will think him well qualified for the post alluded to), but more energy. Most men are here only for a short time. Their utmost exertions for the public good are likely to be rewarded only by a transitory popularity, and hence has resulted a spirit of indifference as to public affairs which has

been at the bottom of nine failures out of ten in matters of this description.

These considerations lead us to congratulate Shanghai upon the acquisition of a Commandant like Sir Harry Parkes. He has a high reputation to maintain. The successful conduct of volunteering matters will be only another, added to the many laurels which he has already won. His success, and the reward of that success—the high opinion of his countrymen and the approval of his Government—will be in proportion to the degree in which he furthers the general and permanent good of Shanghai.

The Recorder announces that the business premises, stock, machinery, &c., of Messrs. Nicolson and Boyd, at Pootung, were brought to the hammer by Messrs. Wainwright and Co. Owing, we presume, to the hardness of the times and consequent scarcity of speculators, the first lot, consisting of the yard and buildings, was knocked down to Mr. Boyd for 13,000 tls., a trifle over half the original cost of the place. For the machinery there was a slight competition, the greater portion of it, together with the bulk of the stock being purchased by Mr. Boyd; and we are glad to perceive that the firm again commences business, under its old style of Nicolson and Boyd, although the interest of the late Mr. Nicolson has, of course, ceased. His place will, we doubt not, be ably filled by the new partner, Mr. Adam, and we cordially wish the new firm success in their undertaking, for it would have been sad to have witnessed the breaking up of an establishment which reflects such credit on the energy and skill of foreigners in this settlement, and which is of such utility to the mercantile marine visiting this port.

The following is the market report from this place:—

EXPORTS.—TEA.—Black: During the past fortnight we have no business to report, and quotations cannot therefore be given. Reports speak favourably of the prospects of the new season's crop, but as yet no authentic information has been received. The incursions of the disorderly Imperial troops into the tea districts have not led to any apprehension of injury to the new crop. —Green: We have again to report a large business, chiefly for America, with an advance of 2 tls. for finer descriptions, but lower grades have shown a tendency to decline, owing to the larger quantity upon the market, and the anxiety of the tea men to realise before leaving for the tea districts.

KIUKIANG.—Dates to 17th inst., one chop of 200 pkgs. Green settled at tls. 18.5.0. Rumoured approach of rebels causing alarm among the tea men, they continue to hasten forward their teas, and stocks comprise only about 2,000 pkgs.

SILK.—We have no transactions to report during the past fortnight, and quotations therefore cannot be given. The reports from the interior respecting the new crop are various, but seem to concur in the opinion that we are likely to have a fair supply, and that under any circumstances, the yield will be much larger than last year's. It is to be feared that the usual anxiety on the part of foreigners to secure first parcels will prevent the chance of the market opening at such low prices as would otherwise be accepted by the silkmen; and tls. 420 to 440 for No. 3 Tsaltee, is spoken of:—

Settlements since 4th May to date	{ China Silk, Nil.
	{ Japan „ 1,200 bales.

Total settlements from 1st June, 1864, to 20th

May, 1865	40,100 bales.
Do. 1863, to 20th do. 1864	38,600 „

Export for the season to date	38,957 bales.
Do. from 1st June to 20th May, 1864	38,029 „

Unsold stock	Nil.
Do. last year	1,000 bales.

COTTON.—The transactions in this staple have been almost nil. Prices are nominally tls. 14.50 to 15 for best description.

FREIGHT.—To London, £2 15s. to £3 per ton of 50 ft. New York, £2 15s. per ton of 40 feet.

NINGPO.

The following letter has been published at Shanghai:—

(To the Editor of the *Friend of China*.)

SIR,—The Campo, Ningpo, was disturbed yesterday from its usual quiet, by the appearance of a body of Cook's Disciplined Force, under the command of Lieutenant, or Captain, Watson, also a few Imperial soldiers under a white button Mandarin, and nearly the whole of the police force, all in fighting costume. It appears that their destination was a house or houses inhabited by Cantonese, supposed to be gamblers; and although the said Cantonese have lived in the houses over two years, and during that time conducted themselves in a quiet and peaceable manner, the way in which they were surrounded, dragged out by the hair of their heads, and made to kneel down before this imp of a Mandarin (those refusing to do so being beaten about the knees and body by the muskets and knives of these European drilled and impish Mandarin soldiers) is beyond description. The houses were completely gutted and looted, upwards of \$4,000 in gold, silver clothes, &c., was taken away not by the Mandarin soldiers, but by that respectable body of disciplined, called Cook's, under the very eyes of their commanding officer, the gallant Lieutenant or Captain Watson, who, strange to say, did not appear to trouble himself, or attempt to put a stop to such atrocious proceedings, though, upon marching away he said he would loot his men when he got them in the city, perhaps thinking that second plunder is better than first.

It is also rumoured that several of the gentlemen wearing the letters N.P. on the collars of their coats, had their pockets so full of dollars that they would not hold any more. (Nice protectors we have in Ningpo.) If such scenes as these are allowed to be carried on in the midst of a foreign settlement, and by a body of should be well-disciplined men, under the command of a European, what next may we look for?—Yours, &c., Ningpo, May 18, 1865.

JUSTICE.

HONG KONG.

The local Bank Returns, as published in the *Hong Kong Gazette*, exhibit the following result:—

	Average Notes in Circulation.	Specie in Reserve.
Oriental Bank	\$873,115 ..	\$300,000
Mercantile Bank	757,855 ..	300,000
Chartered Bank	604,948 ..	250,000
Agra and United States Bank	609,517 ..	250,000
Totals	\$2,845,435	\$1,100,000

The following glowing account of the progress of the new settlement at Kowloong is from the columns of the *Evening Mail*:—

“The works at Kowloong are rapidly progressing. The rough stone foundations of the sea wall on the west side are showing here and there above the water. The hills diminish daily in height and extent, and the earth taken from them goes far to fill in the space enclosed between their foot and the line of the Praya. Two main lines of road are already marked out and partly finished—so much so that planting has commenced and the appearance of a number of healthy-looking stumps at the sides of the roads give promise, at no very distant period, of shady and pleasant avenues. One of these roads runs from the most southern point of the Peninsula, along the west side of and close under the hills on which it is intended to erect the barracks. The second runs at the other side of these hills, and as nearly as possible through the centre of the territory. A third line of road will run parallel to the other two along the sea wall to the west, and from the Praya on that side. The lots disposed of some time since at Kowloong lie along those lines of road. Owners of lots would appear to be in no particular hurry to comply with the terms of their leases by filling in and building on their allotments. If we are not much mistaken, they were bound to complete the filling in within six months from the date of sale—a period which terminated some time in March last. They cannot, however, be blamed for not having as yet complied with the conditions of sale, as the colonial authorities, although they set about it energetically and at once, have not got through their share of the work—the construction of the sea wall and the making of roads—and until these are finished, it is neither possible nor advisable for lot holders to proceed with their operations. We were of opinion, at the time, that the six months granted was not sufficient, and the result shows that we were right. The day will come when the picture we have here drawn with feeble pen will be realised. Kowloong must, with common energy and prudence on the part of the merchants of Hong Kong, become the southern depot of the railway system of China; Wharves, godowns, and offices will congregate on the south and west sides of the Peninsula, where alone a safe anchorage and sufficient depth of water can be obtained. The eastern slopes and the shores of the many bays that indent the coast on that side will afford ‘ample space and verge enough’ for palaces, gardens, and villas; and if the Government and the community are wise enough and provident enough, the Chinese town will still nestle under and around the Peak and its sister hills.”

From the same journal we extract the following:—

“We notice that the steamer *White Cloud* has commenced to ply upon the Macao line in opposition to our old friend the *Feiseen*. We are not astonished at the *White Cloud's* proprietors invading the ground so long and so honourably held by the *Feiseen*, although we believe they *did* resent the invasion of the Canton waters by the *Kinsan's* owners. What the public want is a good boat to go by, quite irrespective of flag or ownership. We admire the readiness shown by Messrs. Russell and Co. to offer the best accommodation to those who are willing to pay for it, and have no doubt that it will reap its reward. At the same time, we cannot see well how both steamers can pay. If one be got to pay, the other must go the wall. The choice of a steamer to go to Macao by is not altogether guided by old associations. Many of us feel, or fancy we feel, a preference for the *Feiseen*, on account of the deserved popularity of the captain, but that will never weigh for a moment against the superior cookery and general style of an American steamer. In saying this much, we are not speaking in any way sarcastically of those who travel to Macao or Canton by American

boats. Nine out of every ten passengers go to those places on excursions of pleasure, and a not unimportant part of that pleasure is what may be called the hotel life afloat. These river boats are floating hotels, and we select that which is most temptingly provided. It seems to be impossible for an Englishman to put down dinner or luncheon in a manner equal to that which a Yankee can achieve. We are almost prepared to swear that the thing cannot be done. Who among us has not sat down to a pleasant meal on board of a river steamer flying the stars and stripes? Did we not feel happy with the snowy table-cover before us and the exquisitely clean knives? Englishmen cannot clean knives, nor can they produce pure white table-cloths. If these superhuman, or rather super-English feats could be achieved on board of the *Feiseen*, then our favourite old boat would be our favourite boat still. Some of us may have a weakness for sailing under the British flag, but most people have a greater weakness for good meals."

A daring attempt had been made to capture the French barque *Louis*, which left Whampoa on the 3rd April, bound for Havana, with 290 Chinese coolies, and about \$40,000 in specie. Tempted by the latter, the passengers, on the 10th April, rose and endeavoured to capture the vessel, but the energy and daring of the crew prevented their obtaining their end. The mutineers were overpowered, secured under hatches and a guard kept carefully over them, nine men being placed in irons. Three of the crew were rather severely wounded in the fray, and one of the ringleaders jumped overboard and was drowned. On the 12th April the vessel met the Bremen barque *Wartburg*, from Borneo, bound to Hong Kong, and a signal of distress being hoisted, assistance was immediately rendered, and the vessels kept in company until their arrival at that port.

The following changes have been officially noted in the Colonial Service:—The Hon. Chief Justice Adams having obtained six months' leave of absence on medical certificate, the Hon. Mr. H. J. Ball is to act in his stead; while Mr. Julian Pauncfote is to be acting Attorney-General until further notice. Mr. Cecil Smith has been confirmed in the office of Registrar-General; and the Rev. John Wilson will act as Colonial Chaplain during the year's absence of the Rev. Dr. Irwin.

SIAM.

The 28th April was the festival of agriculture. His Majesty was escorted with the usual procession to the Pavilion between the First and Second King's Palaces, and the customary ceremonies at that place were performed. The field for ploughing and for feeding the ox for the purpose of divining what products of the earth would be abundant this year came off on the new canal. This latter ceremony is conducted in this wise. A variety of edibles, such as paddy, beans, plantains, potatoes, &c., are arranged on the ground and a hungry ox let loose. Whichever article he eats first will not be abundant that year. We should fancy a hungry ox would not be very fastidious in his choice, and that the article that struck his eye first would be the likely one he would partake of.

The sugar mills at Laconchasee have stopped work for this season. The native mills have turned out but about 25,000 piculs this year against 90,000 piculs last year. The steam sugar mill has also ceased grinding. It is said to have turned out about 7,000 piculs, the grain of the sugar being of fine quality, though not so white as some of that produced by the native mills.

Great complaints are made of petty piracies along the coasts on the Gulf. The pirates are known to be chiefly Chinese fishermen. The unsuspecting traders either anchor or make their boats fast for the night. Their small crews sleep unconscious of danger, being fatigued with the toils of the day. About twelve o'clock at night, the crews of the fishing boats, taking advantage of the heavy sleep of the traders, board their boats and demand the property. Having got this, they haste away. The traders then make their depositions to the Governor of the Province, or the authorities of the place, who, of course, are unable to catch the pirates, and the traders return home glad to have escaped with their lives. It is said that these piracies are chiefly committed by Hainan Chinamen. "Hainan junks" (observes the *Siam Times*) have a very bad reputation all along the coast. Something should be done to protect peaceful traders from robbery and violence. Out of the fleet of gunboats at present in Bangkok, surely some could be spared for this duty. This coast is under the special jurisdiction of the Prime Minister, and he has the means of breaking

up these piracies. In case [he fails to do so immediately he should be held accountable. A man who has the power and revenue he has at command, ought not to be so careless and negligent in the affairs of the country. We are of opinion that a little overhauling and exposure would do both the Prime Minister and the country much good."

The new dry dock under construction by Captain Bush, harbour-master, is making excellent progress, the dry season having been unusually favourable to its construction. The twin screw propeller brought down from Hong Kong by Capt. Shannon, has been purchased by Poh-Chin-Soo, for \$4,500, and will be used both for pleasure and towing, for which she is very well adapted. The Siamese barque *Orestes* belonging to H.R.H. Krom Luang Wongsu, and which has been under repairs for some time past, has just been taken out of dock. This is the barque so long commanded by Capt. Cummings, and was the first Siamese vessel which visited Europe. She has been overhauled and re-coppered, and will soon be ready to resume her trading voyages. The Siamese vessels *Ocean Queen*, *St. George*, and *Rapid* have also undergone repairs. The owner of the latter had a company of Buddhist priests on board repeating prayers, and going through ceremonies preparatory for a voyage. Siamese shipowners have very generally improved the dull times to overhaul and repair their vessels.

The American schooner *Eclipse* sailed from Bangkok on the 10th May with a cargo of teak timber for San Francisco. This is the second cargo from hence for California. Teak is very scarce and dear this season on account of the low state of streams up country, and consequent difficulty in rafting it down.

In the absence of the usual rice trade, many of the natives have turned their attention to timber. Siamese rose-wood and a species of red wood is very abundant, and has been brought to market in large quantities. The Chinese, who are the principal purchasers, made some beautiful furniture out of it. Specimens of these timbers have been shipped to Europe, but European mechanics complain of their great weight and hardness, and refuse to purchase. The Siamese make very little use of any timber except teak. The best timber in Siam for enduring all climates, salt and fresh water, is mitakrao. This kind of timber is quite abundant on the eastern coast of the Gulf. It is rarely if ever used except for building religious edifices. Occasionally a little is used for the frame and planking of boats, but the superstitions of the people are so strong against employing it for any purpose except for "Wata," that they use other varieties of timber not half so good. It is rather heavier than the best of teak, and for the purpose of building war vessels it has no equal. The tree grows very large and tall, and timber of the largest size can be procured of it.

The Siamese ship *Siamese Crown* struck and dragged over a reef near Pulo Panjang on her voyage from China to Bangkok. This reef is not marked on any chart. At the time the vessel struck, Peak Island bore north and White Rock S.W. by W. The ship was drawing fifteen feet water. After crossing over the reef, soundings were got at thirty fathoms. It being in the night time the captain did not stop to examine it.

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

The firms A. van Hoboken and Sons, of Rotterdam; Rynst, and Vinju, at Batavia; and Anemast and Co., at Sourabaya, have forwarded a petition to the Netherlands India Government, proposing the establishment of a steam line between Batavia and the East coast of Australia.

PALEMBANG.

The rice plant promises a rich harvest. The price is from 8 florins to 10 florins per picul. The import of cotton from the interior still continues; but a small quantity was sold, so that the stock is abundant.

CELEBES.

From the first crop of rice no great produce was expected; but scarcity was not feared, as the second crop, and also the reaping of the *jagong*, were expected to be very favourable.

Pirates had been seen at several places on the coast, but care for protection had been taken.

BALI-BOLELENG.

The paddy promised a good harvest; also the coffee, the gathering of which had commenced. White rice 8f. per picul; tobacco, 25f.; coffee 33f.

COCHIN-CHINA.

Admiral Roze, learning that many pirate junks were in the neighbourhood of Phuoc-hai, and threatening that town, sent the armed steamer *La Fusee* to give chase. The commander, Captain Brice, directed his course to the Bay of Phan-tit and there found a number of junks strongly armed. A picked body of marines, under Mr. Robertjot, was ordered to board them, a feat that was accomplished after a mere show of resistance; and this done, their cannon were thrown into the sea. A lighted piece of charcoal was subsequently thrown near the spot where the marines were engaged in destroying the powder of the first junk boarded, and simultaneously they were attacked with spears. Mr. Robertjot and a sailor were slightly wounded by the explosion. A gallant charge on the pirates caused them to fall back, and all presently threw themselves into the sea. Three junks were captured.

The armed schooner *La Mitraille*, whilst engaged in the survey of the approaches to Cape Padaran, came upon a canoe containing the captain of the British ship *Ruby*, his daughter, and a portion of his goods. The *Ruby* had been pursued by pirates for thirty or forty miles off Cape Varella, and thus far distanced her pursuers, but a calm coming on, the pirates prepared to board the vessel to the number of 100 or 150. The captain of the *Ruby*, favoured by darkness, launched two canoes, and as they rowed away saw the pirates climb the sides of the vessel, and heard their cries of joy as they fell on their rich prey. The party had been on the sea without food and without water when fallen in with by the *Mitraille*. The second canoe was not in sight, but search was being made for it. As the *Mitraille* rounded Cape St. James the captain of the *Ruby* was surprised to discover his vessel lying at anchor. After relieving the *Ruby* of her rich cargo of tea, the pirates had abandoned the vessel, which was subsequently fallen in with by a Hamburg ship.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 6th June. The London mail of the 26th April arrived out on the 30th May.

H.M.'s *Euryalus*, the flag-ship of Admiral Sir L. A. Kuper, left for England on the 27th May.

The *Government Gazette* notifies that Mr. F. Vonder Heyde ceased to have charge of the Hamburg and Lubeck Consulate at Singapore, from the 11th May.

The death-blow has been struck at the Kling Hoeys by Colonel Cavanagh's determination to put a stop to all processions at the Mohorum. Without them these societies must cease to exist, for their sole object is the celebration of that festival with as much pomp and splendour as possible. For this purpose subscriptions are collected by the head men from the members, and it is said vast sums of money are spent on the occasion. The Governor has interfered on account of the disturbances that occurred last year, and the *Free Press* trusts he will on the same grounds be induced to suppress the processions of all the Chinese Hoeys that have been guilty of creating disturbances. There are two Kling Kong societies in Singapore, called the White and Red Flag Kongsis or Hoeys. The first was established shortly after the institution of the Ghi Hin or Triad Society here, and is said to be a branch of the same. The second is of later date, and is supposed to be identical with the Chinese Kongsis called Ghi Hok, a rival of the Ghi Hin. The parent clubs are always at variance, and although the Mohamedan members of each hold exactly the same religious tenets, they, like the Chinese, are always at war. The processions at the Mohorum are considered heretical by a large section of the Mohamedan community in the Straits, who keep aloof and despise those who join in them. Nearly all the Malays are of the orthodox party. In a political point of view, therefore, Colonel Cavanagh will have a strong body of Mohamedans on his side.

PENANG.

Remarking on the defensive staff of both services that would probably be retained for the defence of the settlement, after the transfer, the *Gazette* observes:—

While urging economy on the Straits Government, we would protest most strongly against the retention of the very expensive and utterly useless steam vessels, retained for the alleged purpose of suppression of piracy. Suppression of piracy where, we would like to ask? The Governor's annual report for last year mentions the number of cases of piracy brought before the

Supreme Courts of Singapore, Penang, and Malacca, and they were these:—

PENANG.—There has been but one case of alleged piracy reported. Three Chinese fishermen stated that they had been attacked off Quallah Pry, by three Malay boats, with reference to the number of boats continually passing the mouth of that river, much credence is not, however, given to their statement.

MALACCA.—The only case of piracy was dismissed by the Grand Jury, it appearing that the prisoner only seized some Durians out of a boat passing down the river, as payment of a debt that was due to him by the owner.

SINGAPORE.—There was only one case of piracy, in which the alleged perpetrators were brought to trial, no conviction was however obtained. Now this is but a repetition of what has occurred for several years, and for this result we are to continue to pay a large sum annually for the maintenance of the *Pluto*, *Mohr* and *Tonza*. Vessels whether sailing ships or steamers, for the suppression of piracy, were no doubt necessary in former days, and indeed did good service in that way, but where do we see acts of piracy now-a-days in the Straits, necessitating the keeping up these steamers whose speed could not possibly enable them to overtake an ordinary well-manned Malaysampan? We cannot for a moment think that these vessels are really kept for such a purpose, but simply that it is convenient to retain in the reports the name of the service they were once required to perform. Now, however, when they are no longer of use in that way, they had much better be at once struck off the lists of establishments for the Straits and their place supplied by one really good fast steamer, with a light draught of water and moderate size, and with passenger accommodation suited for the requirements of the Straits Government.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

DAWSON.—On the 4th July, at Ponsonby Hall, Whitehaven, the wife of Capt. R. Pudsey Dawson, of a son.
DUFRESNE.—On the 27th May last, at Java, the wife of G. Dufresne, Esq., of a son.
D'ALMEIDA.—On the 5th July, at The Grange, West Molesey, Surrey, the wife of William Berrington D'Almeida, Esq., of a son.
GARDNER.—On the 14th May, at Hong Kong, the wife of Mr. William Gardner, Hamburg Tavern, Queen's-road, West, of a son.
LEWIN.—On the 28th June, at Tynwald Lodge, Springfield-road, St. John's-wood, the wife of D. Duncan Lewin, Esq., formerly of China, of twin daughters.
MUIRHEAD.—On the 8th July, at Grove-lodge, Colney Hatch-park, the wife of D. Muirhead, Esq., of Shanghai, of a son.
VICKERS.—On the 30th June, the wife of Cuthbert Vickers, Esq., of Farborough, Kent, of a son.
WADMAN.—On the 27th June, at Slaughtam Park, Sussex, the wife of E. Wadman, Esq., of a daughter.
WEATHERHEAD.—On the 23rd June, at Shakespeare Villas, Tottenham, the wife of Mr. Alfred Weatherhead (late of Hong Kong), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HEWETT-STEAINS.—On the 29th June, at St. Bartholomew's, Sydenham, by the Rev. W. H. Harke, cousin of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Hy. Stevens, William Hewett, eldest son of William Hewett, of Sydenham-hill, Kent, to Sarah Ann, second daughter of Arthur Steains, of Forest-hill, Kent. No cards.
STUART-WORTLEY-VERSCHOYLE.—On the 29th June, at St. Peter's Church, Pimlico, by the Rev. F. Norman, Archibald Henry Plantagenet Stuart-Wortley, eldest and only surviving son of the late Hon. Charles and Lady Emmeline Stuart-Wortley, to Augusta, youngest daughter of Robert Verschoyle, Esq.

DEATH.

HAPPER.—On the 20th of May, at Hong Kong, Willie Dazelle, the youngest child of Rev. and Mrs. A. F. Happer, of Canton.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—A further decline, without in any way leading to inquiry, has been submitted to by importers, and the transactions to be noted since the date of last circular are confined to the settlement of 165 bales. Grey Shirtings: Show a decline in value, as compared with the prices current during the early part of the month, equal to 15 cents per piece. A moderate amount of inquiry has however been manifested for these fabrics, and settlements are estimated at 15,970 pieces. White Shirtings: The quotations for these goods have shared in the decline noticed for unbleached cloths, and the purchases reported during the fortnight do not exceed 2,300 pieces. Sales of 200 pieces of 64 reed are reported from Foochow at \$5.40 per piece. T-Cloths: The settlements reported during the past fortnight have been almost entirely confined to a sale of 5,000 pieces made by one firm at a reduction upon the quotations previously current equal to 10 cents per piece. Settlements in Canton of 2,000 pieces are also reported. American Drills and Jeans: There is not any of these manufactures in stock. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: Remain unchanged in value, and meet but with trifling inquiry; the sales of the past fortnight consist of 250 pieces of the first named and 750 pieces of Dyed Spotted Shirtings. Damasks: Meet with no inquiry. Chintzes: Have been in moderate request, and sales of 1,890 pieces are reported. Handkerchiefs: Have found buyers to the extent of 2,000 dozen, at about the quotations current under date of last report.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium 'Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: These goods have met with a moderate amount of inquiry during the past fortnight, and the sales of Spanish Stripes (which remain at the quotations previously current) are estimated to amount to 700 pieces. 132 pieces of Medium Cloths have also found buyers. Long Ells: In the absence of almost any business in these goods, the advance of 20 cents quoted in the value of Assorted Colours must be deemed almost nominal. Sales are put at 100 pieces. Camlets: Remain unchanged in value, with sales reported since the date of last Circular amounting to about 680 pieces. Lastings: The transactions reported to have taken place in these fabrics amount to 460 pieces.

METALS.—Iron, flat, &c.: The value of Nail Rod Iron shows a decline as compared with the prices current under date of last report equal to about 15 cents per picul, and the settlements effected during the past fortnight are reported at 2,680 piculs of Nail Rod, 240 piculs of Square and Flat Bar, 340 piculs of Hoop and 400 piculs of Wire. Lead: Re-

mains as previously quoted, with sales of 375 piculs in this colony and 600 piculs in Canton. Tin: 1,500 piculs have found buyers. Tin-Plates: The sales of the fortnight are estimated at 1,150 boxes. Steel: There are not any sales to report.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai	6 months sight.	6s. 2½d. to 6s. 2½d.	6s. 3½d. to 6s. 4d.
At Canton			
At Hong Kong	6 ditto	4s. 1½d.	4s. 5d. to 4s. 6d.
At Macao			
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 5½d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 6½d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 2d.	4s. 3d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 299 to 302 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 216 to 217 per \$100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 74 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 28 to 29 discount.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—July 16, at Falmouth from Akyab, Ironsides; at Liverpool from Shanghai, John Nicholson and Queensbury.

DEPARTURES.—July 13, from Sunderland for Shanghai, Prince Alfred; 15, from London for Shanghai, Dilkhoosh.

SPOKEN.—Prince Alfred (barq.), London to Shanghai, May 30, 5 S., The Gloucestershire (arrived at Manila) spoke the British ship Peep o' Day bound to Shanghai, in lat. 22 S., long. 110 E.; 179 days out.

LAID ON.—At London: For Hong Kong and Canton, Dilpussund.

News has been received from Sydney of the death of Sir F. Pottinger, son of Sir Henry Pottinger, the well-known negociator of the China Treaty of 1841.

THE CHINA DINNER.

This event (the first of an annual meeting) came off on Saturday evening, the 15th inst., when a company of about forty, comprising army and navy officers, merchants, and members of the Civil Service, sat down shortly after eight. We believe the idea originated with Major Brine, Royal Engineers, who has lately returned from Hong Kong, and well known as the Commandant of the Hong Kong Volunteer force. Mr. J. J. Mackenzie, formerly a partner in Messrs. Dent and Co., co-operated with the Major as joint-secretary. From the remarks made by Major Brine, it was evident that he intended to promote the interest now attaching to the "China Challenge Cup," and which is being competed for by the representatives of thirty-two counties. It is hoped this cup will be an annual presentation. Several names were down on the list in addition to those recorded. The gentlemen present comprised:—

Admiral Sir Henry Keppel (in the Chair).
Bishop Smith.
Sir John Davis.
Admiral Sir James Scott.
Admiral Sir Lewis Jones.
Capt. Roderick Dew.
Capt. De Casembroot (Dutch steamer Medusa).
Colonel Sargent.
Colonel Gordon.
Major Brine.
Capt. Byrom.
Capt. Dent.
Messrs.:—
Robert Jardine, M.P.
Edward Pereira.
Robertson, M.P.
Stell.
J. J. Mackenzie.
Donald Mackenzie.
Dohmen (Legation in Japan).
Stuart (Chief Manager Oriental Bank).
Holliday.

Messrs.:—
Warden.
Brown (of Army).
Luce.
Cleverly.
Bradley.
Langley.
Adam Scott.
Harry Smith.
Arthur Smith.
Silverlock.
Montgomery Martin.
Charles Compton.
Spencer Compton.
Brown (of Shanghai).
McAndrew.
Maturin, D.C.G.
Angier.
Wright.
Bleakin.
Webb.

On the removal of the cloth, Admiral Keppel rose and was heartily greeted. He said:—

My Lord Bishop and Gentlemen,—It is with unfeigned pleasure that I meet my countrymen now present, representing, as you do, a quarter of the globe in which I have spent the happiest time of my life. The hospitality of the China merchants is not equalled in any other country. This alone is no trifling recommendation, but they are a set of men who seem thoroughly suited to amalgamate with naval officers. I often wish I could be First Lord of the Admiralty for a few minutes to make out my appointments to the China command. (Hear, hear.) I now propose the health of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen.

This toast being drunk, the health of the Prince and Princess of Wales followed; and the next toast proposed was the Church, coupled with the health of Bishop Smith, who in responding said:—

This occasion is one which all of us welcome, as reviving past associations, and as more particularly connected with the Volunteer display that has taken place at Wimbledon. The volunteer spirit that has been developed in China among foreign residents—the genuine character of which is so well proved in the gift that has been forwarded—is calculated to exert a happy and healthy influence, not only on the tone of the foreign community abroad, but also on the China mind. That mind—indeed, the whole organisation of China—demands greater stability. I recognise nothing so essential to stability as Christian truth; and, notwithstanding the feebleness of coherence to which I have referred, I feel assured that the moral and Christian influence of this country is beginning to have its effect on the Chinese. As a result, with their atten-

tion thus drawn to the true elements of power, they will have an increased sense of their weakness, and proceed, under the directive influence of our example, our guidance, and our teaching, to rectify their deficiencies. I trust yet to see generated that internal prosperity—the product of still greater benefits—of which China stands so much in need. The germ of progress may be discerned even in the present state of comparative disorganisation. The commercial spirit of England must be allowed to have contributed largely to this result. (Cheers.) The future page of history will, I trust, record a progress yet more conspicuous, and carried out under happier auspices; a progress, so far as China is concerned, that will be first manifested in a modification of those modes of thought and action that at present give such a dubious working to her institutions. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN then proposed, "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," coupled with the names of Sir James Scott, Colonel Sargent, and Major Brine. All these are, permit me to say, animated by the same patriotic ardour, and are equally ready, when occasion offers, to vindicate the interests and to defend the honour of the empire. (Cheers.) The services of the army and navy in China are matters of history, and worthy of all praise and encouragement is that Volunteer movement which has developed an amount of patriotism and martial ardour which will not fail of any requirement placed upon it. (Great cheering.)

Sir JAMES SCOTT: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, on behalf of the navy as representing that portion serving in the China seas, permit me most cordially to thank you for the honour you have done it. If it has proved of signal service, that service has had the fortune to have been most fully appreciated. (Cheers.) For my own part, it has ever been my desire to serve the national interest in the way most beneficial and honourable. (Cheers.)

Colonel J. N. SARGENT, C.B.: Gentlemen, I am happy to respond for the army and myself. I can speak most kindly of the China community during my various terms of service in that country. I can tell you that nothing is so encouraging to us as the approval and good wishes of our countrymen.

Major BRINE: I could have wished that this toast could have been more efficiently represented. (On behalf, however, of the Volunteers, permit me to return you our best thanks. The season of our meeting is unfortunately a late one; but it is to be hoped the dinner will be an annual one, and no doubt, at a more propitious season, will be still more largely attended. As to the prize offered by the Volunteers in China—I speak here for the Volunteers, and in a volunteer capacity, and I do not think I can point too strongly—you will remember that but for the money that has been added to the cup there would have been no such competition as that which has taken place; and speaking for the Volunteers, and in a volunteer capacity, I trust you will see the desirability—as I am sure you have the capacity—of permitting your-elf to be copiously bled (laughter), by making a handsome addition to the fund. Looking to the great wealth represented by Anglo-Chinese residents at home, I do not think I can put the point too strongly—(Laughter, and continued cheering.) Five hundred guineas is a sum that would demand extreme thankfulness. I don't like going back to China without conveying a record of a worthy liberality on your part. Thirty-two counties have competed for the cup, and I trust the next contest will witness all England in the list. We Volunteers value very highly your support, and it is in your power to render us most essential service.—(Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, the next toast to which you will be pleased to fill your glasses is the China Civil Service, represented on this occasion by no less distinguished an individual than Sir John Davis. I need say nothing as to those distinguished services which enhanced the political prestige of England, and so largely tended to promote her interests in China.

Sir JOHN DAVIS, who looked remarkably well for his years, and who was received with every demonstration of enthusiasm, spoke as follows. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, on behalf of the China Civil Service I most cordially thank you for the compliment you have paid to its efficiency, the character of this assembly, composed as it is of residents in China, giving a peculiar value and emphasis to such a recognition. To meet thus, gentlemen, fellow-residents in China, in a friendly interchange of sentiments and recollections, is truly grateful to my feelings. Indeed, there is nothing better to exercise a revivifying influence on old age—(cheers)—recalling as it does earlier associations. The weather itself is well fitted to recal China to our minds, but I trust, like the sheep who "left their tails behind them," we will forget the depressing influence from this cause in recalling former associations, which give a peculiar value and emphasis to such a recognition. Sir, the time in which I was a resident in China was not one in which ambassadors and plenipotentiaries were backed up by large military and naval forces. They had to make their way as best they might, among multiplying obstructions—against a policy that generally conceding our claims, endeavoured to defeat them in detail. It was a period, moreover, of great disorganisation. Merchants had to complain of the stagnation of trade, owing to the absence of available means for supplying the Chinese with the goods they were supposed so ardently to desire. Foreigners were treated by officials with insufferable arrogance, and although vexatious hindrances in the way of the development of trade have not disappeared, these are as nothing to those which then existed, our commercial and political relations being alike unsatisfactory. Although the export trade to China has not increased in such a degree as the number and known commercial disposition of the people would lead us to expect, we have secured, through a conciliatory but firm policy, numerous facilities for trade; and it is to be hoped that the advantages in time to come will be proportionately greater. I conceive nothing more flattering than the prospects opened up to us in China and Japan, notwithstanding that the obstacles that present themselves to a more extended trade have been but partially overcome. And with this state of things I cannot but associate the name of Sir Rutherford Alcock, whose discriminating and enlightened course of action has proved of such essential service in the advancement of our interests. European nations were strongly averse to interfere in the affairs of China, but a resort to arms, aided by the efforts of diplomacy, have in the end been found necessary.

The monarchical despotism of China, the feudal oligarchy of Japan were found hard to overcome in order to secure the establishment of our treaties. Our interest and our policy, however, is to strengthen as much as possible the internal Government. Neither accepting any overtures from the Taipings, nor yielding ground before the assassins of Japan. Japan is a nation of Booths, and might appropriately be termed Boothenia Felix. (Laughter.) It is the wish of this Government, that a central power should be promoted and encouraged in both countries; and this accordingly has been realised. To what shall we ascribe our extraordinary success? Formerly one nation contended with another for Eastern trade; their jealousies and rivalries were mutually injurious; now all cordially co-operate from the same motives and for the same ends. All European nations are united as to their policy in China. To what must we attribute our success? Whatever England gains in her contest with China, whether in diplomacy or war, all nations share. The same policy will continue to be prolific of good results.

Sir LEWIS JONES: I propose, seeing a distinguished officer of the Netherlands Government present, "the Foreign Power." (Cheers.) There was a time when the interests of the two countries were not recognised as identical, but those times have long since passed away. The Netherlands has been in advance of us as to time in the East in gaining empire and power; the traces of hostile rivalry, political and commercial, and that subsequently culminated in conflict by land and sea, have left no traces of their influence so far as regards the mutual relations maintained between England and the Netherlands in the Far East, and we recognise in Holland a friendly Power ready to co-operate in all that can promote the common interest. (Cheers.)

Captain M. DE CASEMBROAT, Aid-de-Camp to His Majesty the King of Holland, who commanded the *Medusa* in Japan, was enthusiastically received, and said: I cannot say what is in my heart. I hope in your indulgence, for my thoughts are better than my words. I shall be always happy for occasions presenting themselves to testify to the strength and sincerity which my countrymen entertain for yours.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I propose to you "Prosperity to the Commerce of China."

Mr. ROBERTSON (formerly of Turner and Co.), M.P. for Hastings briefly and humorously responded, adverting to the beneficial system of the East India Company, so far, at least, as concerned the forcing our goods on Chinamen and securing large profits, to which, of course, the company said amen, but did not quite believe in.

Mr. W. T. BRIDGES: I rise to propose the health of our distinguished chairman, Admiral Harry Keppel. (Prolonged cheering.) No name is more distinguished, whether for organisation, rapid insight, and large presence, and supreme and overpowering dash. In the China seas and in China he added lustre to the British name, and has vindicated himself as a worthy compeer of the immortal Nelson. We old Chinamen glory alike in his reputation and achievements. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: In rising to return thanks, I am at a loss what to say. I am now fairly overcome. (Cheers.) I assure you I have still a longing to return to the China station. Gentlemen, I thank you most sincerely, and cordially unite in the wish so generally expressed that this dinner may be an annual one. The annual meeting of the real and good friends of China cannot but prove both gratifying and beneficial. (Cheers.) The gallant Admiral resumed his seat under a storm of applause, and a rain of Kentish fire.

Mr. MONTGOMERY MARTIN: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I rise to propose the health of a gentleman who has done more to the civil cause in China than any Commodore, — (laughter) — than any Bishop, (increased laughter) — than the whole body of merchants. (Continued laughter.) I allude to Colonel Gordon. (Enthusiastic applause.) Although I happen to differ from him on many points, I pay every homage to his integrity of motive, to his marvellous sagacity, to his tried courage, to his reliance on his own convictions, and on the strength of which he has been ready to assume all needful responsibility. (Cheers.) He has been resolute, wise, and courageous in a novel and peculiar position, where the qualities he has manifested have rendered the British character better understood and more unreservedly trusted, and to this extent have largely contributed to improved and extended commercial and financial relations. China, with its material interests, its great staples, its large and active population, is eminently calculated to impress us with the possible advantages of a more extended trade in that quarter. We see in the condition of the country not only a national marvel but a standing type of the old civilisation brought to light, and coming into contact with the civilisation of the West, when, as if in obedience to some mysterious behest rather than through our own seeking, we are gaining in power and dominion over the whole of the Asiatic races. China, though containing one-third of the human race, and held together by municipal institutions for 2,500 years, is shaping itself anew under Anglo-Saxon influences. Notwithstanding all that has been accomplished, I see clouds hanging over the future of China — problems which it must yet be the task of political and civil wisdom to solve. What we demand is that we shall be able to put more fully to account the natural capabilities of that country for trade. We seek not only the increase of our commerce, but an increase proportionate to the augmented capital we have invested. Great as are our resources, we are not willing that the operative influence these carry with them should be arbitrarily curtailed. Eventually, by concerted action, we shall triumph, if not in extinguishing at least in destroying the effective force of that spirit of exclusiveness which is the bane of China. After these violent upheavals of political strife, let us hope to see an enlarged trade, such as the Government of China will be found not only to recognise but to encourage. We acknowledge the necessity of a great central Government, and of union among the provinces; what is desired is that the administration shall be conducted at once in a more liberal and vigorous spirit.

Colonel GORDON, whose rising was the signal for enthusiastic applause, said: I think on this occasion that you have placed too high a value on my services. Whatever I have done has been with the best intentions (cheers), and I thank you most sincerely for your testimony. I would

especially mention the testimonial presented to me on leaving Shanghai. I consider myself amply repaid for any service I rendered to our national interests or those of the merchants in China.

Admiral Keppel, to the surprise of most of the company, then left the chair at a quarter to eleven. Had the gallant Admiral been asked, no doubt he would have presided for another hour or found a deputy. As it was the, toasts which properly applied to the occasion were not half accomplished. There was one which certainly should not have been omitted. We allude to Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, but for whose able and prudent conduct a great many who were then present would never have had the pleasure of again seeing "Old England." Our readers will remember that he conducted the operations known as the "Arrow War" in Canton, and subsequently at Taku, which finally led to the capitulation of Peking — unquestionably the most eventful period of our history in China.

CHINESE EMIGRATION TO THE BRITISH COLONIES.

The twenty-fifth General Report of the Emigration Commissioners, which bears date the 29th April in the present year, contains a very comprehensive account of all that occurred during the season 1864-65, both as regards emigration from the United Kingdom and the immigration into the British Colonies from whatever part of the world it took place. Of course the subject of "Chinese Emigration" comes in for its share of the Commissioners' attention. They state:—

"In our report of last year we explained the arrangement recently entered into by British Guiana and Trinidad to import a certain number of Chinese immigrants annually for a term of years, in the hope of reducing the expense and improving the character of the immigration. The amount which it was proposed to fix as a minimum was—to British Guiana, 1,250; Trinidad, 750—2,000. At their meeting, however, early in 1864, the Combined Court of British Guiana raised the quota for that colony for the ensuing season to 1,500 male labourers; equal, with the proportion of women, to 1,800 adults. The first vessel dispatched by the Emigration Agent, Mr. Sampson, was the *Brechin Castle*, which sailed from Canton on the 18th October with 270 emigrants (of whom 78 were women), and arrived in British Guiana on the 26th January. The deaths on the voyage were only 3; equal to 1.11 per cent. The immigrants were said to be a fine body of people, the women capable of working, and all appeared on arrival cheerful and contented. It was necessary to send seven to the Colonial Hospital, of whom one died. The next ship dispatched was the *Montrose*, for Trinidad. She sailed from Whampoa on the 17th November, and arrived at her destination on the 18th February, having lost on the voyage 11 out of 324; equal to a mortality of 3.39 per cent. Among the emigrants were 100 women. The surgeon of the ship died at sea a month after leaving Whampoa; but by the good management of the master and officers health and discipline were satisfactorily maintained. Besides the above, we have heard of the dispatch of the *Queen of the East* and of the *Serilla* for British Guiana, the former with 487 emigrants, and the latter with 312, and of the *Paria* for Trinidad, with 288. One ship also, the *Light of the Age*, has been dispatched from Amoy to Honduras, in consequence of a special application from the Government of that colony. To procure the requisite number of emigrants the agent had been obliged to establish a subagency at Amoy."

The number of emigrants conveyed from China to the West Indies since the year 1843 is 12,175, of whom 2,107 were dispatched from 1843 to 1856. The contract price for the immigrants embarked last year for British Guiana in the *Brechin Castle* and *Serilla* was £14, and for those in the *Queen of the East* (1,226 tons) £12. 17s. 6d.; and for those in the *Montrose* to Trinidad £15, and in the *Paria* £14.

With reference to the Australian gold-fields, the Commissioners state they have received the returns of the population there for the year 1864. "They show so extraordinary a steadiness in the numbers that, if correct, the gold-digging population, so far from being a migratory and excitable class, as has been supposed, must be singularly constant and stationary." This steadiness in the number characterises both the European and Chinese population. Of the latter the numbers were—for the 1st quarter, 31,957; 2nd, 32,277; 3rd, 29,963; 4th, 30,071. The Commissioners remark:—"In the return of population, the most striking fact is, the large number of Chinese men, and the total absence of Chinese women. It cannot be matter of surprise or regret that the Colonial Legislature should be anxious to adopt any measures calculated to check so pernicious a state of things." The Legislature of Victoria passed in 1864 an Act to consolidate the laws affecting Chinese immigrants. It reimposes, from the 30th June in the present year, the tax of £10 a head on Chinese arriving by sea, and £4 a head on those arriving by land, which was originally imposed by an Act passed in 1855, but by an Act passed in June, 1863, was suspended for two years.

At the conclusion of the document the Commissioners note:—"Several leases of Guano Islands in the Pacific Ocean have also been granted since our last report; the islands so granted are eleven in number, lying generally between 2 deg. north and 25 deg. south latitude, and between 143 deg. 52 min. east and 104 deg. west longitude,"—rather a wide section of the chart of the world.

CONSUMPTION OF SHERRY.—The official list of the export of sherry from Cadiz for the past half-year shows a total of 24,421 butts against 40,419 in 1864. The principal exporters from Jerez are Gonzalez and Byass, 2,228 butts; P. Garvey, 1,608; P. Domecq, 1,367; M. Misa, 1,277; MacKenzie and Co., 942; and Pemarten and Co., 751. From Port St. Mary—Widow, Harmony, and Co., 1,117; M. and F. Tosar, 1,045; Duff, Gordon, and Co., 772; M. de Mora, 728, and F. W. Cozens and Co. (Jerez, 1,301, and Port St. Mary, 759), 2,960.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 17, 1865

PRUSSIAN COLONISATION IN THE FAR EAST.

FROM the ambitious and equivocal conduct displayed last year by Prussia in her aggression on Denmark, her seizure of the Duchies of Schleswig, Holstein, and Lauenburg, and above all her subsequent appropriation of the harbour and Bay of Kiel as the head-quarters of her little navy, our readers will not be surprised to learn that that Government entertains still more ambitious views of aggrandisement, and proposes to take a higher flight in so remote a quarter that no fear of any remonstrance being made by European States need be entertained. Herr von BISMARCK, Prussia's Prime Minister, believes it to be the destiny of his country not only to swallow up all Germany but to spread out over the globe like Russia; but though his SOVEREIGN may possess the ambition of PETER the GREAT, yet his genius is certainly not of the same calibre, although that requisite may be supplied by an unscrupulous and enterprising Prime Minister like himself. Besides, there is the infant navy, Prussia's latest hobby, to find occupation for; and as it is manifest there is no room for expansion in that respect in Europe, it will be good exercise to quarrel with some semi-barbarous nation, as they did some years ago with the Barbary pirates, and thus get accustomed to naval warfare. A few years ago, it will be recollected, a Prussian expedition, partly diplomatic and partly commercial, of three or four ships of war was sent out to the Far East, and Count EULENBURG, in his capacity of Ambassador Extraordinary, was fortunate enough to conclude very favourable Treaties of Commerce and Navigation with China, Siam, and Japan, which afford a fair pretext for keeping a ship of war or two in those waters, ostensibly for the protection of their commerce.

During the last ten days or fortnight a series of well-written articles has been published in a prominent part of a Berlin paper called the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, belonging to that class called in German "officious" and meaning semi-official, and which is also well-known to be Herr von BISMARCK's pet organ, specially made use of—and in fact only very lately founded by him—for the dissemination of his own peculiar doctrines and the enunciation of coming events as well as the defence of his ministerial policy. That series of articles, which are just now concluded, bear the significant heading of "Prussia's Colonial Policy," and are generally ascribed to the pen of Count EULENBURG himself, who is now a member of the Cabinet—being Minister of the Interior—and a fast friend and supporter of the present régime. Under these circumstances, and as the imputation of the authorship has never been denied, the articles have made a great sensation, not only in Prussia, but all over Germany; and we have reason to believe, from trustworthy and reliable sources, that they do really and truly represent the feelings and intentions of Prussia, and foreshadow events that are on the eve of taking place.

After dwelling at some length on the advantages secured by treaties with the countries before-mentioned and the develop-

ment of Prussia's commerce and navigation in the China Seas that has already taken place in consequence of those treaties, and after paying a just tribute to the wisdom and foresight of England in creating such flourishing places as Singapore and Hong Kong, the writer proceeds to demonstrate the benefits that must necessarily accrue to Prussia in particular and Germany generally, by the possession of a well-selected spot capable of being strongly fortified and easily defended, within an easy distance of China and Japan, where ships of war may repair for refitting, coaling, and taking in fresh provisions and water, and merchant vessels find a harbour of refuge under the protection of the Prussian flag and artillery. With reference also to the present highly to be deprecated want of system in German emigration to all parts of the world, by which during the last thirty years some millions of steady, frugal and hard-working Germans with their wives and families have not only become lost to their Fatherland, but whose strength and labour have gone to populate and enrich other countries that may some day or other be at war with Germany, the writer opines that many of them would easily be induced to prefer settling in a Prussian colony of the same language and religion as themselves, and with whose laws and customs they are familiar. He then refers to the progress made by the Dutch in pushing their relations with the Far East, and points out the extent of territory and the valuable possessions known under the generic term of Netherlands India, arguing that under the fostering care of a paternal government the contemplated Prussian colony may shortly become the nucleus and head-quarters of a "German India."

But where to find such a desirable spot combining all the advantages above described with a healthy climate, fertile soil, and capability of expansion? The German diplomatist calls out "Eureka!" and proceeds to develop his plan. He has pitched upon a safe and commodious harbour on the west coast of the Island of Formosa, or Tai-wan, that was partly surveyed by the officers of the late expedition, but not completed owing to the determined hostility of the natives. He thinks it might be easily fortified, and afford security and shelter for Prussian merchantmen frequenting the China Seas, as well as forming a naval head-station for the ships of war employed in those waters. He cites the works of Mr. FORTUNE and other late writers to prove the fertility of the country, supplying as it does the opposite coast of China with corn, rice, vegetables and fruits, and therefore affording a field admirably adapted for German industry and scientific agriculture, whilst the climate forms a desirable mixture of the temperate and the torrid zones, the Tropic of Cancer passing through the centre of the island. Our learned Theban seems to ignore that the Emperor of CHINA claims the sovereignty of this future German paradise—a claim that, as far as we know, has never been disputed; for he states as an undoubted fact that Formosa is "inhabited by" "by savages owning no allegiance to any foreign Power, who" "can be easily subdued or their acquiescence and friendship be" "obtained by favourable treaties." Thus it seems that the prevailing idea is that it will be much easier to gain possession by force used against the natives than by negotiation or purchase from the Emperor of CHINA. But the dream of Prussian aggrandisement goes even much further, for the writer proceeds to show how the infant colony "would very soon spread" "over the whole of the island, and even extend to the opposite" "coast of the Chinese continent;" from which it appears that he considers the province of Fo-kien also a *herrenloses land*, or country without any recognised master, which term he more than once does not hesitate to apply to Formosa. "But it" "may be asked (continues the writer), if Formosa offers such" "advantages for German colonisation, how comes it that the" "British have not thought it worth their while to take possession of it?" "The fact is," answers the diplomatist to his own query, "that England has quite enough colonies in all" "parts of the world, and finds them rather an embarrassment" "than otherwise; for she has even begun to get rid of them, as" "was lately the case when she voluntarily renounced possession" "of the Ionian Islands and transferred them to Greece, with" "which kingdom they have now been incorporated. But it may" "further be asked, what will England say should Prussia take" "possession of Formosa? The answer is simply that though" "England may demur beforehand, she will make no objection" "when it is a *fait accompli*, and therefore the sooner we go to" "work the better."

The articles conclude by a disquisition as to whether it would not be advisable to make it a penal colony, but after

weighing the benefits and disadvantages against each other, the writer seems to think it had better be left an open question for the present, but recommends the measures that ought to be taken under all circumstances in the course of the summer for the immediate realisation of the project. These are to send out a couple of the ships of war that are lying idle at Kiel and Danzig, with a certain number of troops on board, to take possession of the island and hold it in military occupation. There will also be sent out a body of skilled artificers of different trades to be employed in erecting the fortifications, building houses, barracks, &c.; these men to be allowed to take their wives and families with them, who will form the nucleus of the infant colony. As all Prussian subjects have served in the army for three years, these artificers have been trained to arms, and would be able to defend themselves if attacked by the natives. On the completion of the defensive works and habitations required, these original settlers would receive a free grant of land for themselves and their families, and turn their attention to the cultivation of the soil, in which they would be supported in a liberal manner by the Prussian Government. There are such a number of enterprising young men now in Prussia that the writer is convinced there would be not the slightest difficulty in procuring a sufficient number of intelligent young couples ready to volunteer to become the pioneers of the infant settlement which is to expand by degrees into "German India." It is in no spirit of hostility towards Prussia that we have penned these lines. The world is large, and there is plenty of room in it for us all to live and prosper in. But there is an old adage that says "the proof of the pudding lies in the eating," and as the Germans have hitherto not yet tried their hands at colonisation in any part of the globe, we cannot be induced to consider the project at present in any other light than as visionary dreams of the richly theoretical but certainly not practical Germans. We shall not fail to keep an eye on the prosecution of the plan, and, if it is carried into execution, we shall communicate in due time further particulars to our readers.

THE HONG KONG ROYAL MINT.

CAPTAIN KINDER (the Master) and family, and Messrs. Tookey and Allen, of the Hong Kong Royal Mint, proceed to Hong Kong by the present mail; Mr. Davies, the Comptroller, and Mr. Manning, of the melting department, will probably follow by the next steamer. With the exception of a few trifling articles, the shipment of the balance of the machinery for the Mint has just been completed, and we hope soon to hear of the establishment being in satisfactory working order.

W. H. MITCHELL, Esq., late Chief Magistrate of Hong Kong has been duly passed as barrister at Lincoln's-inn, and, we understand, will shortly proceed to Shanghai to practise. From his previous experience in China, and intimate knowledge of mercantile matters, as well as of criminal proceedings, we doubt not but that he will be found an able adviser, and an ornament to the "New Court at Shanghai." He possesses the *suaviter in modo* with the *fortiter in re*, which is so important to a barrister.

STRAITS OF SUNDA.

It will be remembered that some months since an article appeared in our columns in reference to difficulties said to have arisen between the local authorities at and masters of vessels passing through the Straits. In reply to this, a correspondent at Anjer assures us that no interference ever takes place with the masters, crews, or passengers of vessels, further than is necessary to carry out such salutary regulations for the maintenance of order as are usually enforced at every port to which merchant vessels resort. Our correspondent further states that the office of the Assistant Resident is always open to persons having complaints to make, and that such are invariably received by that functionary with courtesy and attention. We trust, therefore, that no further complaints will reach us, and that that delightful resting place on the route to the Far East will be appreciated as heretofore in the old times.

THE MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES.—This company will be prepared to open the branch line from Shanghai to Japan next September. A steamer is fitting out for despatch to Singapore to take up the Batavia line.

THE P. AND O. COMPANY.—The *Delhi*, which has been employed on the home line, has started for Galle, there to receive orders to take up one of the lines on the India or China station.

THE AMERICAN LEGATIONS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.—The simultaneous return of General Pruyn and Mr. Burlingame, has given rise to a report that they have been recalled, in pursuance of an intention the part of the United States Government to abandon the Legations both at Peking and Yedo. There is, however, no truth in this supposition, both Ministers having applied some time ago for leave of absence.

THE WIMBLEDON MEETING.—The annual rifle competition begins to-day, the formation of the camp having been in progress since the 8th inst. Several new prizes have been introduced this year, the most conspicuous being the "China Challenge Cup," value 500 guineas, contributed by volunteers in China.

IMPORTS OF HEMP AND JUTE.—The quantity of hemp imported into this country last year was 1,010,688 cwts., against 1,067,913 cwts. in 1863, and against 915,807 cwts. in 1862. The chief sources of supply are Russia, Austria, British India, and the Philippine Islands; and these countries in 1864 furnished us with 540,093 cwts., 157,299 cwts., 75,522 cwts., and 183,943 cwts., respectively—all other places contributing 53,831 cwts. Reviewing the statistics of this article of commerce during the past fifteen years, it cannot be said to have exhibited any marked advance. Of jute and other vegetable substances of like nature the quantity brought into this country last year was 2,047,287 cwts., or 792,682 cwts. in excess of that in 1863, or 1,083,513 cwts. more than in 1862. Twelve years since, when jute was first specified in the official account under a heading distinct from that of hemp, the annual importation did not exceed 275,578 cwts.; the increment has been, therefore, more than sevenfold. Almost the entire supply was brought from India, Singapore, and Ceylon.

COLONIAL BISHOPRICS.—There are, it appears, by a return issued lately, thirty-eight colonial bishoprics, with salaries varying from £50 up to £2,500. The £50 bishop is Dr. Thomas, Bishop of Goulburn (New South Wales), and his munificent income is said to be derived from the Colonial Bishoprics' Fund, and from the interest on a sum returned blank invested in the colony. The prelate who has £2,500 a-year is Dr. Parry, of Barbadoes, whose income is entirely derived from the Consolidated Fund. Only five bishops are thus provided for, and they are all in charge of West Indian dioceses. A note appended to the return says, "The list of colonial bishoprics is made up without reference to the effect of the recent decision of the Judicial Committee in the case of the Bishop of Natal."

A clipper ship, built by Messrs. Robert Steele and Co. for the China trade, was recently launched from their yard on the Clyde. As the vessel left the ways she was named the *Ariel* by Mrs. Robert Steele, jun. The *Ariel's* dimensions are:—Length of keel and fore-rake, 195 feet; breadth of beam, 33 feet 9 inches; depth of hold, 20 feet 6 inches; register tonnage, 850. She is built on the composite principle, and will be classed 14 years A 1 at Lloyd's. Her owners are Messrs. Phillips, Shaw, and Lowther, and Captain Maxton, London, and she will be commanded by Captain Keay, late of the *Falcon*.

DR. DANIELL, THE AFRICAN TRAVELLER.—William Freeman Daniell, M.D., F.L.S., late Staff-surgeon to Her Majesty's forces in Jamaica, from which island he arrived in England last September, with a constitution thoroughly broken up by climate, died, June 26, at Southampton, aged 47 years, and was buried in Kensal-green, July 3. Dr. Daniell was well known to the scientific world by his indefatigable labours and researches on the climate and productions of the pestilential coast of Western Africa, and other parts of the globe. He served the whole of his time as assistant-surgeon at our settlements on the African coast, and obtained his promotion to the rank of staff-surgeon in 1853; since which he has twice been employed in the West Indies, and accompanied the "Expeditionary Force" to China in 1860, where his love of his favourite pursuit, Botany, led him to make some additions to the flora of that interesting region, more especially of a fine new species of Tartary oak, which may at some future day furnish timber for a dockyard at Hong Kong—should our present iron-clads not altogether supersede the demand for that invaluable wood in the construction of Britain's best bulwarks.

THE CHINA CHALLENGE CUP.—The competition for this cup commenced on the 15th by representatives from thirty-two counties. It is expected to be completed to-day. Several designs for the cup have been submitted, and the selection is still under consideration. The conditions of the match having been left to the Council, great curiosity was felt as to the ultimate destination of it. The decision arrived at was that it should be placed in the hands of the Lord-Lieutenant of the winning county from year to year, and that £100 should be annually divided among the more successful of the competing squads, consisting of ten men drawn from every county desirous of entering.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, July 8.

The First Chamber of the States-General, as I anticipated in my last, passed the new tariff for the Netherlands Indies without a dissentient. This was certainly a great parliamentary triumph for the Minister of the Colonial Department, but I persist in my opinion that the tariff is not so liberal as we had the right to expect from this Cabinet. An important discussion took place about the abrogation of the existing free-ports and free provinces in India, which are exempted from paying duties. Several members were of opinion that these privileges ought to be repealed, but Mr. Fransen van de Putte thought it impossible to revoke those protective measures immediately. After having passed also the great politico-economical measure for modifying the law regarding the communal imposts, the First Chamber was prorogued.

Though the Cabinet had been thus successful, it was to be feared that the Minister of the Financial Department would suffer a check on the law about the personal taxes. At a former sitting, when the law met with some opposition from the Ministerial party, the illness of Mr. Betz delayed this defence of his principles. Every one thought that the law would be modified during this delay, but that not having been done Article I. of the Bill was rejected by 39 against 25 votes, and in consequence the Bill was withdrawn. There are many

rumours in circulation as to what he will do in his critical position. His resignation would follow according to strict constitutional usage, but I do not think that will be his resolve. Meantime the Second Chamber adjourned till Monday next, when the discussion on the law abolishing the Stamp duty on newspapers will commence.

Yesterday the commercial treaty with France was signed at the Hague. In my next I will give you some particulars about this important treaty. I can now only say, that on Dutch coffee imported into France no higher duty can be levied than 5 francs per 100 kilo. This is one of the most favourable stipulations.

Dr. Buddingh, Inspector of Education in the East Indies, has had the Leopold order conferred on him by the King of the Belgians.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market continues to be in a very firm condition. Very few parcels are offered, notwithstanding there is much inquiry for those qualities sold in the last auction. The unsold stock of the Trading Company amounts to 380,200 bales Java, against 417,900 bales in 1864, and 386,400 in 1863. The stock in the Netherlands amounts to 512,200 bales, against 563,100 bales in 1864. Since the 1st of January till the 1st inst. the Trading Company delivered 412,498 bales, against 384,923 bales in the six first months of 1864. At the close of the market holders declined to operate without a considerable advance, because it was officially known that the new crop would not produce more than 760,000 bales.

SUGAR.—(Raw). The market remains inactive, but in a firm condition. Holders decline to sell at the actual quotations; only 2,000 to 3,000 kr. changed hands at 1½f. beneath May prices. On the 21st inst. the Trading Company will offer at public auction 70,600 kr.

RICE.—The market remains still in an unaltered condition; only 300 bales Java were sold at the former rates.

TEA.—At the public sales for private account the quantities offered were partly sold at the following prices:—China: Superfine Congo 92 to 100c., Extra Fine Kaisow Congo 115 to 142. Fine Congo 98, Finest Pecco Souchon 160, Fine Kaisow Congo 100 to 105, Finest Kaisow Congo 76 to 100, Finest Flowery Pecco 130 to 140, Finest Congo 110 to 111, Finest Souchon 105, Extra Finer Oopack Congo 137 to 140, Extra Fine Flowery Pecco 112. Superfine New Season's Souchon 140 to 141, Finest New Season's Souchon 105 to 106, Finest Lapsang Souchon 175, Fine New Season's Congo 125 to 130, Finest New Season's Kaisow Congo 125, Fine Congo 105, Extra Fine Congo 105, Finest Hysant 60 to 100 c. Java: Boey 40 to 43c., Congo 48 to 76, Kempoe 60 to 80, Souchon 80 to 85, Congo Souchon Pecco 110, Pecco 110, Tonkay 40 to 50, Schin 37 to 40, Hysant 50 to 80, Uxim 65 to 80c. Since the auction the parcels retired were sold at the same prices. There is much confidence in this article.

SPICES.—Still dull, and with a very limited business at former prices. Since the 1st January the Trading Company delivered:—Nutmegs 330 casks, Mace 228 casks, Cloves 224 casks; against 996 casks Nutmegs, 347 casks Mace, and 234 casks Cloves, in 1864. The unsold stock of the Trading Company amounted on the 30th June to—1863, 2,116 casks Nutmegs, 960 casks Mace, 600 casks Cloves, 1,065 fard. Cinnamon, 5,181 b. Pepper; 1864, 1,466 casks Nutmegs, 856 casks Mace, 70 casks Cloves, 1,378 fard. Cinnamon, 3,707 b. Pepper; 1865, 3,061 casks Nutmegs, 756 casks Mace, 1,793 casks Cloves, 1,612 fard. Cinnamon, 1,619 b. Pepper. And on cedula in the 2nd hand—1863, 4,474 casks Nutmegs, 1,150 casks Mace, 2,885 casks Cloves, 756 fard. Cinnamon, 616 b. Pepper; 1864, 4,190 casks Nutmegs, 1,096 casks Mace, 2,833 casks Cloves, 944 fard. Cinnamon, 464 b. Pepper; 1865, 4,786 casks Nutmegs, 1,129 casks Mace, 2,465 casks Cloves, 326 fard. Cinnamon, 264 b. Pepper.

COTTON.—The sales have been extremely light in the last days. In the former week the transactions were important, and with improved prices. Stock, 4,300c. Madras.

HIDES.—Without transactions, at least they are not known, the brokers being defended to give publicity as to the sales and prices.

INDIGO.—With a good demand at improved prices, but the stock being very unimportant in the first hand, business is limited. 91 chests were sold at an advance of 25c. on the last auction prices.

GAMBIE.—A parcel of 413 p. came in the market, of which 100 p. were sold; the rest may now be had at 14f. per p.

BANCA TIN.—The 168,704 slabs Banca and 1,223 slabs Billiton offered at auction by the Trading Company were all sold at 56f., which must be considered as very favourable. The actual stock amounts to 217,023 slabs (value 56f.), against 185,988 in 1864 (value 62½f.); and 148,218 slabs in 1863 (value 78f.).

COCOA-NUT OIL.—Very firm; the prices are still improving by want of stock.

RATTANS.—Only a few transactions have taken place at former quotations.

ARRACK.—There are no transactions to report, buyers declining to operate at the high quotations.

TOBACCO (JAVA).—(Report of Mr. N. C. Gregoor, broker, Rotterdam).—The several auctions went off not unfavourable with regard to the best qualities. The inferior, however, were given at low prices, which, without doubt must give great losses to the consigners. These low quotations, however, caused some speculative inquiry, and it is more than probable that these operations at prices much beneath those at which can be produced, will give very favourable result. Those qualities fit for the London market were paid with fabulous prices. The trading marks H. and A. Blitar, de Blitar, Nauta Blitar, A. J. Walter, N. A. J. Walter, Blitar and Djaris, obtained the highest prices. The Rembang tobacco is waited for with much interest. Manilla: There was a good demand at improved prices for 2a. (cover), and the consumption bought a very important quantity. In the second-hand, many transactions took place. The market closed, however, inactive for want of parcels offered. Quotations, 3a. (dec. auction) 65 c., 3a. full auction 55 c.; 2a. 120 c., 1a. 150 c.; 4a. 32 c. Actual stock, 14,676 p. Java leaves; 3,118 p. Manilla; 3,000 casks Maryland.

MANILA SEGARS.—375,000 were offered to-day. The 2a Cortados were partly sold at 38½f., the rest was retired at 40f. Another lot of

450,000 2a Cortados, 1864, were partly sold at 39½f. to 40f., and the rest retired at 42f.

TORTOISE.—The Netherlands Trading Company offered in public auction 93 ch. 10,000 kilo., which were partly sold at f.4.25 to f.10.25, and partly retired at f.8.75 to f.9.75.

MOTHER OF PEARL.—About 77,100 ps. were sold by the Trading Company; the 1a, at 81½ to 82½c.; 2a, 84 to 85c.; 3a, 65c.

SILK (JAPAN).—The Trading Company sold at auction 6 b. Had-chojee, at 33f. to 34f.; 20 b. Coshio, at 33½f. to 40½f.; 41 b. Sodai, at 31½f. to 38½f.; 18 b. Idah (slips and bricks), at 34½f. to 42½f.; 166 b. Oshia (redevidce), at 34½f. to 42f.; 12 b. Sincheu (flotillons), at 40½f. to 44½f.; 16 b. Maybashi (flotillons), at 37½f. to 42½f.; 5 b. Inchew (bricks), at 32½f. to 32½f. For private account was sold: 2 b. Trame, at 51f.; 5 b. Organzine, at 43f. to 48f.; 57 b. Persian, at 26f. to 26½f.; 3 b. Chinchantea, at 18f.; 1 b. Chinchea, at 18f.

MONEY is very abundant, and it is willingly given in the open market at 3 per cent. Bank discount, for bills, 3 per cent.; for acceptances, 3½ per cent.; Dutch debt, 2½ per cents. 62 11-16th; 3 per cents., 73½; 4 per cents., 97 3-16th; Handelsmaatschappij, 146½; Dutch Rhenish Railway shares, 334f.; Central Railway shares, 121½f.; Society of Exploration State Railway, 91½; East Indian Bank, 86; East Indian Railway, 90. The market in general is flat and business very limited. 'Change: London, 3 mo., f.11.78; 2 mo., f.11.81; short, f.11.81; Paris, 3 mo., f.46.70; 2 mo., f.46.82; short, f.47.20; Antwerp, 3 mo., f.46.65; short, f.47.12; Hambro', 3 mo., f.34.90; 2 mo., f.34.98; short, f.35.10.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—June 22, at Flushing, from Singapore, Landrost Braun; 26, at Texel, from Batavia, Quartet, Ortelius; July 3, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Nederland and Oranje; 2, at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Reflect; 4, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Susanna Johanna; 5, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Jeannette Cornelia; Burgemeester van Middelburg; 6, at Brouwershaven, from Tjilatjap, Tonia, Minister Pahud; July 7, from Padang, Isaac da Cotas; at Texel, from Passaraeang, Jacoba and Christina.

DEPARTURES.—June 26, from Texel for Sourabaya, Quintet; July 2, from Texel for Kanagawa, Batavia; 6, from Hellevot, for Singapore, Sophia Amalia.

READY TO SAIL.—Helena and Anna, for Batavia; Alblasterwaard, for Sourabaya; Sophia Amalia, for Singapore.

LOADING.—At Rotterdam, for Batavia and Sourabaya, Bezoekie, Hugo Grotius, Boni, Johanna; for Batavia, Constantia, Cornelis Wernard Eduard; for Batavia and Samarang, Robertus Hendriks; for Samarang, Doelwyk, Bilderdyk, Koffyboom; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Sophia Amalia. At Amsterdam, for Batavia and Sourabaya, Louise; for Batavia and Samarang, Constance; for Decima and Kanagawa, Bantam; for Kanagawa and Nagasaki, Gloria; for Padang, Excelsior, Anna and Jeannette, Helena, Geradina, Wilhelmina, Telanak; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Bernard and Agnes; for Sourabaya, Bellatrix.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—For Batavia: Constantia, 741 tons; Cornelis, Wernard Edouard, 850 tons. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Bezoekie, 747 tons; Hugo Grotius, 673 tons; Boni, 575 tons; Johanna, 713 tons. For Batavia and Samarang: Robertus Hendriks, 753 tons. For Samarang: Doelwyk, 824 tons; Bilderdyk, 754 tons; Koffyboom, 1,230 tons. For Kanagawa: Maria, 380 tons. Freight unaltered.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java: per Ortelius, Messrs. J. H. Donleben and family, S. Fegel, J. F. Kooze, and Miss C. Abbink. Per Quintet: Messrs. W. J. Schroder and Bregman. Per Nederland and Oranje: Mr. F. A. Wetmar and family. Per Tonia: Messrs. F. Ten Hagen and family, C. Drayer, Labaar and family, Snits, Mrs. Graiken and family. Per Padang Packet: Messrs. C. de Haan Holtzinger and family.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To Java: per Quintet, Messrs. T. and P. Blom and two children, C. J. Gysbers, Mrs. J. Schaaffien von Bronkhorst and six children, Miss J. L. Sauer.

TEA.

(Traders' Circular.)

Two months have now elapsed since the announcement of the proposed reduction in duty, and with the exception of a few days of feverish excitement, the market has been, during the whole of that period, in a state of unprecedented stagnation. How different a result was anticipated! It was thought that the removal of one-half of an impost, equal to 100 per cent. of the market value of the great bulk of the tea used, would so materially reduce retail prices, that the immediate increase of consumption would again raise prices after the reduction was absolutely made. These anticipations have only been partly realised; retail prices have fallen, and consumption has increased, but the addition to price and the large demand which would, it was thought, naturally follow, have not as yet resulted. It would, however, be premature to suppose that retailers and consumers have reaped all the benefit of the reduction, and that no part of it is likely to reach importers of tea. Their future position will be improved, and a more speedy, and perhaps in the long run, a more profitable realisation would have taken place, if, instead of allowing themselves to be carried away by the excitement inseparable from fiscal changes, they had directed their attention to the real position of supply, and to the actual wants of the trade. To any one at all conversant with such matters it must have been evident that when the duty-paid stocks of tea held by retailers were as large as they were proved to have been by the unanimous outcry raised for a postponement of the reduction in duty, the bonded stocks held by them must also be considerable, and therefore that they would not be likely to buy for some time unless a great inducement was held out to them to do so. But this very obvious inference was generally lost sight of, and the brief period of excitement during which the trade would have bought freely at any moderate advance was suffered to pass away unimproved, in the hope of obtaining, at some unknown period, still higher rates. On the part of the trade it was felt that the demands of importers were not warranted by circumstances, being based upon an exaggerated estimate of increased consumption at home and a doubtful export demand, while, on the other hand, heavy arrivals and a year's stocks in the

country were used as arguments against any great rise in price. But the question was further complicated by the receipt of telegrams announcing pecuniary difficulties in China, and on these fresh arguments were founded both for and against an advance. It was stated that the crippled condition of some of the mercantile houses would interfere with shipments; that the first arrivals of the new teas would, in consequence, be much later this year; and that, from the same cause, the total exports of the season would be considerably restricted. These statements do not appear to have exercised much influence on purchases; indeed, rumours of short supply have been so often circulated, and so seldom followed by any actual scarcity, that the argument has lost its force. It was well known that China produced annually far more tea than she could consume at home, and that to the extent of the reduction of 6d. per lb. we were in a position to compete with the Chinese consumers themselves for the entire crop, and probably to outbid them; at any rate, the great bulk of the excessive production was certain to be sent to this country, as England had always been her largest and wealthiest customer. This certainty was further increased by the knowledge that the news of the reduction of duty, and consequent rise in price here, would be received in China about the middle of May, and that an inducement, sufficiently powerful to counterbalance the depressing effect of last year's losses, would thus be held out to shippers. China, too, was no longer the only source of supply. Japan had contributed largely of late years, while cultivation was extending rapidly in India, and large consignments were known to be on the way from that country. Under these circumstances, grocers, who had been willing to buy forward when prices were low, declined to purchase at the extreme advance, resolving to use up the stocks they had already bought before they again entered the market; and, as even now many of them are known to hold as much as they can sell in six months, it seems probable that they may be able to continue for some time this passive resistance to the demands of importers. These last do not appear to be disposed to yield, and it remains to be proved which side will have to give way first. Buyers, however, seem to have the advantage, and to hold the result very much in their own hands; the more so as recent advices do not confirm the statements made at the beginning of May as to the probability of the new season's shipments being later than last year. Two cargoes were dispatched from Foo Chow at the usual time; and though the opening price was higher, this has been more than counterbalanced by the differences of freight and exchange. When one leading argument in favour of a particular theory falls through, the other reasons urged in support of it are naturally regarded with some suspicion; and very little anxiety will now be felt as to the shipments of the present season being deficient. There is little probability of business improving till prices are lower, as grocers appear to be in a position to wait for more favourable terms, and are quite disposed to exercise more care in purchasing in proportion as retail prices are reduced, while the cost of delayed realisation is thus all thrown on the importers, who are losing interest on capital, and are incurring accumulated dock charges, besides injuring future prices, by allowing stocks to increase.

The Board of Trade Returns, just published, state the official stock on 31st May to have been 121,576,792 lbs., and even if the most liberal deduction is made for deliveries during the month of June, there must still be as much tea on hand as at this time last year. As it is probable that clearances at the new rate of duty were somewhat in excess of requirements, the stock will not be very much diminished during the month of July, and even when allowance is made for larger deliveries during August and September, no formidable decrease is likely to be exhibited when the new season's shipments begin to arrive.

Legal.

RE THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (LIMITED) AND THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862.

(Before Vice-Chancellor Sir W. P. WOOD on the 6th inst.)

This was an application on behalf of Mr. Robert Montgomery Martin, under section 35 of the Companies Act, 1862, to have the register of the company rectified by striking out his name, which was entered in respect of 200 shares in the company. Two similar applications have been made with respect to this company within the last fortnight,—one at the Rolls, by a Mr. Los, the other in this court, by a Mr. Higgs, and in both instances the register was ordered to be rectified by expunging their names. The cases, which arose out of an amalgamation between the Imperial Bank of China, in which these gentlemen were shareholders, with the Bank of Hindustan, of which they did not choose to become members, are reported already. On the same day on which notice of motion in the present case was served the directors of the Bank of Hindustan, passed a resolution for removing from the register the names of 40 persons including Mr. Martin, in consequence of these decisions in the Court of Chancery.

Mr. Rolt, Q.C., and Mr. J. N. Higgins, in support of the motion, contended that the directors had no power to do what they had done, and that Mr. Martin was entitled to have the protection of an order of the Court, according to the provisions of section 35 of the Companies Act, 1862.

Mr. Giffard, Q.C., and Mr. Edlis, for the bank, argued that the applicant had no longer any *locus standi*, and that he ought not to have proceeded with his motion after receiving notice that his name had actually been struck off the register.

The Vice-Chancellor said that Mr. Martin was entitled to such indemnity as the Court could give him. It had been argued that even the order of the Court would not protect him against other shareholders, in case they could show that he ought still to be regarded as a member of the company; but his Honour considered that this was an incorrect view, and that his order would be binding on the other shareholders, although, perhaps, it might not be so as regarded creditors of the company. To hold anything else would be a most disastrous doctrine for companies, for it would imply the right of every individual shareholder to appear on such an application as the present. On the other hand, it was certain that the company was not bound by the act of the directors in removing this gentleman's name. The order now asked must therefore be made, and the company must pay the costs of the application.

Naval and Military.

It was generally expected by the public, when the American Monitor first appeared in our waters, that the Admiralty would take steps to produce a vessel on similar principles, so as to place our navy on a par with that of the United States. But, amid all its experiments and reconstructions, the Admiralty has never yet attempted to build a ship upon this model; and recent experience would seem to indicate that the authorities have acted prudently in declining to burthen the country with the cost of a fleet of Monitors until their qualities had been fairly put to the test. Mr. Ericsson's design, although doubtless an ingenious one, has turned out practically a failure. The original Monitor, after a short career of mingled failures and successes, went to the bottom, and others built on her model have since followed her. It would seem to have been reserved for Captain Coles so to elaborate and perfect the system of "central armament" as to produce an iron-clad vessel perfectly manageable and seaworthy, and able safely to carry guns of enormous calibre—600-pounders, for instance, which Sir W. Armstrong avers will be none too large to carry a charge sufficient to penetrate the side of a first-rate iron-clad vessel.

Major-Gen. Lord W. Paulet, K.C.B., gives up the command of the South-West Military District and the Lieut.-Governorship of the garrison of Portsmouth to his successor, Lieut.-Gen. Sir George Buller. Lord William Paulet succeeds Sir James Yorke Scarlett at the Horse Guards in the office of Adj.-Gen.

Rear-Admiral George Elliot, Superintendent of Portsmouth Dockyard, next on the list of rear-admirals for promotion, has resigned his appointment at Portsmouth with the intention of offering himself to the constituency of Chatham as a candidate for their suffrages in the Conservative interest at the ensuing election.

The Hindostan, sailing hired transport, has arrived at Spithead from Hong Kong, which she left on the 23rd of February. The troops she had on board consisted of the 6th battery of the 12th brigade of Royal Artillery, comprising Lieuts. Cane and Ellerby, Assist.-Surg. Longbeard, and 103 non-commissioned officers and men, 91 time-expired and invalided soldiers, 3 naval officers, and a few naval invalids, with some women and children belonging to the troops. Sixteen men and two women died during the voyage. The Royal Artillery were sent into quarters in Fort Elson, near Gosport; the invalids to the Royal Victoria Military Hospital at Netley, and the time-expired men to the depots of their respective regiments. The naval passengers and invalids were sent to Her Majesty's ship Victory, and the Naval Hospital at Haslar. This vessel brings also several guns of varied calibre, part of our captures in Japan.

Dr. Robert Bernard (1845) has been promoted to the rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, and will proceed immediately to Hong Kong, to take charge of the naval medical department in that settlement. Dr. Bernard's pay will amount to £500 per annum, whereas that of an officer of the same rank in the Army would be £1,000. No wonder the military service is more popular than the naval with professional men.

The Turret-ship Commission have reported against the construction of a vessel on Captain Cowper Coles' design, which they objected to chiefly on account of its being for a one-turret ship; and it is stated that they prefer two turrets combined with a fixed battery; so it will doubtless be decided to build the Hercules on Mr. Reed's plan, which, as we said in a former number, has a turret at each end of the ship.

The scheme by which the Duke of Somerset and his colleagues intended to abolish the rank of master in the Royal navy was laid on the table of the House of Lords on Tuesday. It has not as yet been printed, although, as a matter of course, it will be so immediately. We are, therefore, only able to deal very shortly with the supposed contents of the document. Their lordships have decided that in the face of the high qualifications which are required in our days from young officers before they can be promoted to the rank of lieutenant, it is absolutely wrong that attainments of the kind should be unavailable for the use of the public after they have been awarded their commission. It has, therefore, been resolved that while the whole responsibility connected with the safe navigation of Her Majesty's ships shall devolve upon the captain, he shall be assisted by a navigating officer taken from the class just mentioned. We regret to find that it is not intended to do much for the staff commanders and masters now on the list. We fear that these gentlemen will be called upon to serve in their present rank until death or retirement places them beyond the reach of their lordships.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL GORDON, C.B., Royal Engineers, has been appointed to proceed to Dover for active service.

Monetary and Commercial.

At the half-yearly meeting of the directors of the Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance Company (Limited), held in London, an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and a bonus of 5 per cent., were declared, free of income-tax, being together at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum for the half year ending 30th June.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Union Bank of London, Mr. Northall Laurie in the chair, the report stated the available total, including £61,375 brought from the previous account, to be £206,255, and recommended a dividend and bonus at the rate of 30 per cent. per annum, leaving after an appropriation of £5,000 to the building fund, £21,255 to be carried forward. A vacancy in the direction, caused by the resignation of Mr. T. A. Gibb, was filled by the nomination of Mr. Springour, who has hitherto from the foundation of the establishment, for twenty-six years, acted as general manager,

with a zealous rectitude that was among the main causes of its success.

It appears that telegraphic communication with India is suspended, and it is feared that the difficulty on this occasion is through some break or fault in the Gulf cable.

The half-yearly bullion tables, prepared by Mr. F. M. Page, show that the export to China was £422,509, against £888,911, in 1864; to Singapore, Penang, and Batavia, £356,472, against £403,171; to Ceylon, £7,886, against £50,725. The total to all parts of India and China (with Alexandria) being £3,500,756, against £13,111,405, in 1864.

Another agency institution has been formed under the title of the "United Service Company," which is intended to absorb the agency business now conducted by Messrs. Saunders, Otley, and Morgan. The capital is fixed at £500,000, in 50,000 shares of £10 each; and the directors comprise first-class civil and military officers.

Owing to the failure of Messrs. Scott, Berland, and Co., the firm of Messrs. J. Samuels and Co., merchants, of Manchester, have been obliged to suspend payment. The liabilities are stated at £80,000. The liquidation will, it is expected, prove satisfactory.

The annexed circular has been sent to the shareholders in the China Steam and Labuan Coal Company (Limited):—

Sir,—The directors having had inquiries from some of the shareholders as to the reason for making the recent call, the board beg to inform them that the call was required not in consequence (as some shareholders think) of the depreciated price of the shares, but to carry out the original objects and intentions of the company. The directors think it desirable to let all the shareholders know that their hopes, as regards the future prospects of the company, have not been in any way lessened, and they are of opinion that the objects of the company offer a most legitimate source for investment, and, with careful management, will result in success; but they cannot possibly control the value of the shares in the market, and at the present moment the nominal market price of a share is no criterion of its value. The board have engaged a marine superintendent of ability and experience, who proceeded to China by the last mail, and as soon as he has had time to make himself acquainted with the position of affairs abroad he will make a detailed report for the information of the shareholders. As regards the Labuan property, a deputation of the directors have had an interview with the Secretary of State for the Colonies with reference to a concession of lands and other privileges connected with the construction of the railway from the coal pits to Victoria Harbour, and these negotiations are proceeding very satisfactorily, and when concluded will be of great advantage to the company. The present price of good steam coal at Hong Kong and Shanghai would leave a considerable profit on coals shipped from Labuan to those ports, and as soon as the short railway, seven-and-a-half miles, is made to Victoria Harbour, it will enable the company to ship coals in such quantities as to meet any reasonable demands. I may add that all the steamers are profitably employed, and if you will at any time favour me with a call, I shall be happy to show you all the reports, and afford any other information in my power—I am, &c., H. WALLER PLATT, Acting Secretary.

The bills have been returned of Messrs. Watson, Bogle, and Co., shipping merchants, of Manchester, a firm connected with Messrs. Scott, Bell, and Co., whose stoppage has been announced.

The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company have appointed Mr. W. H. Vacher, late of Gilman and Co., China, as their special agent in London. The address is at present at Gresham House, Old Broad-street. The bank, as previously announced, draw on the London and Westminster Bank.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£79,143
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£166,242
Singapore	£23,007	£202,650
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£6,165

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£37,066
Penang	—	£4,508
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£31,151
Yokohama	—	£7,336

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	—
To Saigon	—	£90,157
To Batavia	£1,132	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14,880
To Shanghai	£80	£39,183

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold per ounce	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubleloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 0½
Mexican Dollars	0 4 1¼

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Foo-chow Congous: In dust and broken leaf we hear of hardly any transactions, and all grades above these up to medium kinds are only saleable here and there at the reduced prices established at the public auctions; fine and finest are scarce, but the business in these kinds is quite of a retail character. Black Leaf: There have been several new parcels offering out of the late arrivals, but mostly of common to fair quality, for which it is impossible to obtain biddings; in medium and fine the transactions have been most limited. A few boxes "overland," of new Tayshan-make and fine quality, sold in public sale at 3s. per lb. Flowery Pekoes have been cleared off at the auctions at extremely low rates. In Scented Teas we have nothing new to notice.

There have been several parcels of coloured Japan Teas on offer, but they are not of the class of late in demand. True Greens: A few parcels have been sold at full rates, but the bulk of the late arrivals are not yet on the market. At the public sales that concluded on the 10th instant, 34,474 packages were sold. An Indian sale was held on the 13th and 14th instant, consisting of 3,750 packages, of which 2,913 have been sold. The sales have gone very heavily, and at a reduction of 2d. to 4d. per lb., the broken kinds being mostly withdrawn in the absence of offers. A China sale is advertised for the 18th instant; so far, only about 10,000 packages are printed, mostly "without reserve."

SILK.—According to a circular of Messrs. Arles Dufour and Co., of Lyons, the apprehensions of a bad silk crop, which for several months have influenced business, and caused a continual rise in prices, are confirmed. The European crop of 1865 may, it is said, be looked upon as the most disastrous since the breaking out of the disease. It is difficult to ascertain the mean price for the present year, on account of the great disparity in value of the various races of cocoons. The Japanese races are the only ones of which the success has been nearly universal, and, taking these for a basis, the season opens with quotations from 20 to 30 per cent. higher than those current at the corresponding period of last year. Indeed, for certain qualities they are even above those of 1857. Still it is felt desirable that producers should be on their guard—first, against the dangers arising from a probably diminishing consumption, on account of extreme rates; secondly, against the probability of a much larger importation from China and Japan, which, according to the last advices, may be double that of last year; and, lastly, against the equally great probability, on account of the success of the Japanese seed, of an abundant crop in 1866.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
CHINA:—Tsatlee, No. 1	33	0	to	33 6
" No. 2 & 3	31	0	to	32 0
" Hangchow	27	0	to	28 0
Yueufu and Hainan, No. 1	27	6	to	—
" No. 2 & 3	25	6	to	26 6
Taysam, No. 1	28	0	to	—
" No. 2 & 3	25	6	to	27 0
Long Reel	22	0	to	24 6
Canton	—	—	—	—
Thrown	—	—	—	—
JAPAN:—Mibashi, No. 1	34	0	to	35 0
" No. 2 & 3	31	6	to	33 0
Idah Bricks, No. 1	31	0	to	33 0
" No. 2 & 3	29	0	to	31 0
Sodai, No. 1	30	6	to	31 6
" No. 2 & 3	29	0	to	30 6
Oshu, re-reel, No. 1	30	0	to	31 0
" No. 2 & 3	27	6	to	30 0
Koshu, Selé	28	0	to	30 0
Hatchooje Tussah	13	6	to	27 0
Achezan slips	27	0	to	29 6
Mashlah do.	27	0	to	29 6

COTTON.—Prices are irregular, the market having been very quiet, with little business done. An advance of ¼d. to ½d., obtained at the very close of the week ending the 8th inst., has been mostly lost. We have no sales of China to report in the London market, but 80 bales Japan, fair, went at 12d. The stock of China and Japan in London on the 13th July was 5,020, bales against 31,435 same time last year; the total stock of all kinds being 63,568 bales, against 80,021 in 1864. The stock afloat to Europe on the 14th is 17,910 bales China, and 826 bales Japan, against 73,085 bales of the former, and 9,126 bales of the latter last year. The stock of cotton in Liverpool on the 14th was 360,527 bales, against 212,177 bales last year. At Liverpool there was similar advance to that noted above, at the very close of the week ending the 8th, but the higher figure has been lost during the present week. In China and Japan the current qualities command full prices, while the better descriptions are rather dearer. Middling Orleans is quoted at 19½d. and fair Dhollerah at 14d. per lb.

SUGAR.—The buoyancy observable at the date of our last has not since continued, and the business done has been on a less extensive scale; prices, however, have been fully supported. 3,822 bags Penang were held for firm prices, and barely two-thirds were taken, fine brown to low yellow 30s. to 31s. 6d., low middling and middling yellow 32s. to 33s. The only transaction reported on the spot by private contract since the 7th is 4,000 bags unclayed Manila at 27s. At public sale on the 14th 537 bags common brown, Siam sort, fetched 25s. 6d. to 26s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The public sales of plantation Ceylon have amounted to 1,100 casks, 630 barrels and bags, which at the opening went off without spirit, but a slight reduction being submitted to, buyers afterwards purchased more freely, and the whole quantity offered has been sold; fine ordinary to low middling, 78s. to 83s.; middling to good middling, 84s. to 88s.; 244 casks 2,180 bags Native were about half realized, at rather easier prices, good ordinary mixed, 66s. 6d. to 67s.; real good ordinary, 68s. to 69s.; fine ordinary, 69s. 6d. to 70s. At auction 1,428 bags Singapore sold as follows:—Mixed Bonthe, 72s. 6d. to 73s.; common to good Campar, 60s. to 64s. 6d.; fair Siam, 66s. 6d. to 68s., and Bally, 57s. 6d. to 58s.

HIDES.—The quantity of East India offered at the first public sales of the present month was not large, and consisted almost wholly of middling and inferior qualities only suitable for export, for which there was a fair demand, clearing the greater part at from last sale prices to an occasional

slight decline on hides of heavy average. 4,058 Singapore and Penang Cow Hides offered, 2,344 sold; Light, 6d. to 7d. per lb.; Heavy, 4½d. to 5½d. per lb.; Thirds, 4d. to 4½d. per lb. 3,348 Singapore and Penang Buffalo Hides offered and sold at 5½d. to 5½d. per lb. for best; 5d. to 5½d. for seconds, and 4½d. for light.

RICE.—Continued quietness has prevailed in this market, buyers appearing indisposed to operate beyond their most immediate wants, and the sales reported do not exceed 5,000 bags. At auction, 915 bags Java (of 1862 import) and 3,000 bags Nakrenzie, meeting scarcely any offers, were withdrawn.

PEPPER.—In public sale the sound part of 1,008 bags good Black Singapore was held for 3½d., and afterwards taken at that price, with the damaged portion at allowances. Privately, about 3,000 bags have been sold at steady rates—Singapore, 3½d.; cash and short prompts, Penang at 2½d. to 3d.

CASSIA LIGNEA is taken in moderate quantities at full prices, low middling to good 8½s. to 8s.

CLOVES.—Only 15 cases Penang have been brought forward, which were withdrawn at 1s. 2d.

SAGO.—1,142 boxes, in public sale, were mostly realised at about former rates:—Fair medium, 18s. 6d.; fine, 20s. to 20s. 6d.; fair large grain, 21s. 6d. to 22s.; very good, 23s. to 23s. 6d. Flour has been purchased by private contract at 14s. 3d. to 14s. 6d.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—The market has been steady, but the demand is not very active; holders, however, are firm. At auction 7 casks of Ceylon only were offered, which were sold at 42s. to 42s. 3d., the quality being rather inferior, prompt one month.

CUTCH.—Demand steady, at 24s. to 25s. according to quality.

HEMP.—Firm; at £29 to £31 for roping Manila.

TIN.—Straits, cash, £91; Banco, £94 per ton.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
July 5	Deal	Shanghai	Benvenue	Key.
— 6	London	Colombo, &c.	Attila	Brown.
— 7	Falmouth	Akyab	Conna	Island.
— 7	Deal	Batavia	Tonia	Werner.
— 6	Off Dover	Bangoon	Everhard Delius	Hohnholz.
— 6	Off the Wight	Singapore	La Serena	Beal.
— 5	Texel	Padang	Padang Packet	Huidekoper.
— 5	Do.	Banjoewangie	Ocean	Smit.
— 5	Do.	Do.	California	Leonhard.
— 4	Brouwershaven	Do.	Susanna Johanna	Peters.
— 5	Do.	Do.	Cornelia	Romyn.
— 5	Do.	Do.	Burgm. v. Middelburg	Hoek.
Jun. 17	Havana	Macao	Nouvelle Pallas	Daban.
— 19	Do.	Do.	Avon	Falcon.
— 26	New York	Shanghai	Finella	Murray.
July 7	Deal	Batavia	Tagal	Horner.
— 7	Do.	Do.	China	Thompson.
— 8	London	Shanghai	Countess Russell	Thompson.
— 7	Texel	Paseroeng	Jacoba & Christina	Kleyn.
— 7	Brouwershaven	Padang	Isaac da Costa	Vonck.
— 8	Do.	Banjoewangie	India	Henningsten.
— 4	Gibraltar	Singapore	Lotus	Koch.
— 9	Hamburg	Batavia	Adelaide	Holst.
— 9	Cuxhaven	Do.	Mauritius	Thuren.
— 12	Falmouth	Akyab	Carlota	Fortunato.
Jun. 11	Havana	Macao	Queen of England	Wilson.
July 13	London	Colombo	Santiago	Smith.
Jun. 21	Demerara	Canton	Seville	Smith.
July	Queenstown	Maulmain	Mangerton	Mucks.

DEPARTURES.

Date	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
July 2	Hamburg	Singapore	Fontenoy	Zwanck.
— 3	Soderhamn	Java	Hoeten	Julius.
— 6	Cardiff	Singapore	President Plate	Austin.
— 7	Newport	Galle	Sir James	Hender.
— 7	Sunderland	Shanghai	Scawfell	Peterson.
— 6	Newport	Galle	Annie Royston	Plummer.
— 11	London	Shanghai	Anglo Saxon	Anderson.
— 11	Falmouth	Yokohama	Maravi	Burgess.
— 12	London	Sunderland & Galle	Albyn's Isle	Thurkell.
— 10	Sunderland	Shanghai	Prince Alfred	Bryant.
— 12	Cardiff	Do.	Sailor's Home	Thompson.
— 12	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Vanda	Jamh.
May 22	Valparaiso	Do.	Frances Palmer	Fraser.
July 14	London	Yokohama	Chanticleer	Fraser.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Scindia. For Shanghai: Laurel, Jubilee, Dilkhoosh, Lansdowne. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sydney Eggers, Crest of the Wave. For Singapore: Courante. For Singapore and Penang: Bride. For Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, and Batavia: Konig Willem III. For Colombo: Crixia, Thames, Charlotte Ann. For Colombo and Cochin: Star of the Mersey, John Bunyan. For Colombo and Galle: Strata Florida. For Galle, Bypore, Calicut and Mangalore: Atalanta.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Eliza Hands. For Shanghai: Aerolite, Lockett. For Singapore: Carn Tual. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Bulgersteyn. For Manila: Cinco Hermanos, Aureliana, San Luis. For Penang: Avery. For Ceylon: Star of Devon.

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At GREENOCK.—For Hong Kong and Canton: Ariel.

At NEW YORK.—For Shanghai: Horatio. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Anna Kimball. For Hong Kong: Benefactress. For Hong Kong and Singapore: Harmon.

At BOSTON.—For Hong Kong: Santee.

SPOKEN.

ROBIN HOOD, Sunderland to Shanghai, May 30, 2 N., 29 W.
JOHANNA ELIZABETH (Dut. b.), Batavia to Amst., May 6, 35 S., 23 E.
PANIC, New York to Singapore, May 15, on the Equator, 23 W.
MARIA VERONICA, Amsterdam to Samarang, May 29, 3 N., 27 W.
GEBROEDERS, Cardiff to Singapore, June 2, 5 N., 25 W.
GUURTJE AND MARIA, Cardiff to Manila, May 31, 7 N., 23 W.
NORTHERN LIGHT, Colombo to London, May 6, 35 S., 18 E.
ISIS, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 14, 6 N., 22 W.
PRINCES AMALIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 15, 7 N., 24 W.
TAYLOR (?) (Dut.), Rottm. to Bat., 34 days out, May 27, 5 S., 28 W.
MEDINA (?) (brig.), Manila to Fal., 95 days out, June 6, 24 N., 36 W.
AUSTRALIE, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 5, 2 N., 27 W.
GLENGARIFF (?) (s.), Col'bo to Lon. 46 days out, April 18, 28 S., 45 E.
JEDDO, Reval to China, June 23, 46 N., 16 W.
KONING WILLEM II., Amsterdam to Batavia, May 31, 6 N., 24 W.
CANADIAN, London to Hong Kong, June 24, 45 N., 13 (?) W.
2 GEZUSTERS, Shields to Sourabaya, May 23, 6 N., 23 W.
NUEVO GIACOMO, Padang to Rotterdam, June 24, 31 N., 31 W.
FINZEL (barq.), Liverpool to Shanghai, May 8, 37 S., 15 E.
QUATRE BRAS (Dutch barq.), Ams. to Macassar, Apl. 3, 26 S., 19 W.
THUSNELDA (Brem. barq.), Sndind. to Sngpre. March 25, 2 N., 24 W.
SIMON HOBLEY (barq.), London to Japan, May 1, 34 S., 21 W.
MARY LAWSON (barq.), Colombo to London, May 31, 23 S., 56 W.
JAS. RUSSELL, London to Hong Kong, July 4, 44 N., 11 W.
ALBRECHT BEYLING, Rotterdam to Singapore, June 2, 10 N., 26 W.
GEBROEDERS, Banjoewangie to Amsterdam, May 29, 6 S., 16 W.
HUNTER (barq.), Colombo to London, June 29, 32 N., 32 W.
SOVEREIGN OF INDIA, H. Kong to Portsmouth, April 25, 2 S., 107 E.
HENRY HARBECK, Philadelphia to Shanghai, May 12, 20 N., 115 E.
A vessel (supposed the WHITE ADDER, Lon. to H. Kong, off Paulo Sapato.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The export market has been devoid of any particular feature, owing, however, to the scarcity of available tonnage now offering at the various coal ports for the leading ports in China, high prices have been obtained in coal charters. Homewards, business is still much restricted.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meas. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meas. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meas. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meas. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meas. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £43 and £2. 2s. For Shanghai: £52 and £2s. 13s. 6d. For Manila: 34s. to 35s. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £27 to £28 and £1. 8s. For Galle: £29 to £30 and £1. 6s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty having invited tenders for the conveyance of 64 tons naval stores, including a few combustibles, from the river Thames to Trincomalee, have accepted the Charlotte Ann for that purpose.

CASUALTIES.

The Etienne, Abeille, which sailed 28th May from Mauritius for Singapore, put back on the 1st June, leaky. The following notice has been posted at Lloyd's:—The Peep-o'-Day, Fentil, from London to Shanghai, was spoken Dec. 15, in lat. 35 S., lon. 17 E., and has not since been heard of.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At MAURITIUS.—May 20, from Sourabaya, Margaretha, Muller; June 4, from Singapore, Conference, Reid; 4, Shaftesbury (s.s.), Aitken, sailed for Singapore.

On Friday the 17th inst. there was launched from the building-yard of Mr. Archibald Denny, Dumbarton, a tug paddle-steamer, named the Court Hey—so called after the seat of Mr. Robertson Gladstone, of the firm of Gladstone and Co., of this town. The following are her dimensions:—Length of keel and forerake, 160 feet; breadth of beam, 25 ft.; depth moulded, 15 8-12ths feet. She is to be fitted with a pair of oscillating engines, having feathering floats, of 200-horse power nominal, and is intended for the towing flotilla of Messrs. Gladstone, Wylie and Co., Calcutta.

The Japan, a steamer of 600 tons burden, 180 feet by 26 feet and 15 feet, built for the East India trade by Messrs. Hedderwick and Co., of Govan, has made a trial trip between the Cloch and the Cumbræ Lights. The steamer, which is fitted with a pair of direct-acting engines, of 85-horse power, nominal, by Messrs. J. Howden and Co., "ran the lights" in 81 minutes, being at the rate of 10-12 knots per hour.

An iron screw steamer, built and engined by W. Simons and Co., was launched on the 11th instant from the London Works, Renfrew. She is of 900 tons and 120-horse power, fitted with surface condensers, steam winches, and every recent improvement. She is named the Count Von des Bosh, and is the property of the Netherlands Steam Navigation Company. She has a full poop, fitted up with cabins in rosewood, teak, and maple.

There was launched on the 13th instant from the yard of Messrs. Vernon and Sons, Brunswick Dock, Liverpool, an iron screw steamer, named the Nerbudda, built for Messrs. Reynolds, Mann, and Co., and intended for the East India trade. Her dimensions are—length, 260 feet; beam, 34 feet; depth, 21 feet 6 inches. She is registered as a vessel of 1,474 tons O.M.

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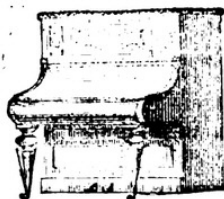
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